Joliet Junior College
BLAZER
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Welcome to the Obama Era

JJC professor partakes in historic inauguration

Shawn Faust
Co-Editor-In-Chief

Addressing a crowd of over 1.4 million people, as well as the nation and the rest of the world, Barack Obama, the 44th president, gave his inauguration speech that drew from former presidents such as Franklin Delano Roosevelt, John Kennedy and George Washington.

Within his speech, Obama commented on a range of the problems affecting the United States, as he faced one of the largest turnouts for a presidential inauguration in the history of the nation.

"Today I say to you that the challenges we face are real, they are serious and they are many. They will not be met easily, or in a short span of time, but know this America, they will be met," promised Obama in his speech.

Joliet Junior College Professor Bill Yarrow, who was invited to the inauguration along with his wife Leah, noted that "the crowd was bigger than Grant Park on the Fourth of July."

Leah was very active in both Obama's presidential and senatorial campaign as a volunteer in which she spent one week at the caucus in Cedar Rapids, Iowa and served as a credential volunteer at the convention in Denver.

Professor Yarrow was also invited to the events and comments that at the caucus in Cedar Rapids, Hillary Clinton's volunteers handed out free sub sandwiches while Leah and the rest of Obama's volunteers were told not to bring food so as not to seem like they were bribing people for their vote.

Besides participating in these events, Leah spent many grueling bours going door-to-door campaigning for Obama throughout Illinois and the surrounding states.

For her time and volunteer work, Leah and her husband were rewarded with free silver seating tickets to the inauguration.

Although the Yarrows didn't have the greatest seating and were forced to watch the event via the jumbotron, Professor Yarrow stated, "It was one of the most amazing experiences of my life," and further said, "I think I took about a thousand pictures."

Professor Yarrow also commented on the diversity in his seating as there was a surprising number of kids and he was able to meet a judge from Baton Rouge and a newly elected congresswoman.

"It was interesting to see 'normal' people standing side by side with 'important' people," said Yarrow.

Yarrow noted that some members of the crowd braved the cold and were camping out at four in the morning in order to guarantee their seating for when the event kicked off and that the crowd was so large that it seemed like security had lost control by 4:30 a.m.

The inauguration ended with the same energy that it started with and Yarrow stated, "There was a big cheer when Bush got on the helicopter and left."

Professor Bill Yarrow and his wife Leah witness the historic inauguration.
Photo courtesy of printroom.com

JJC celebrates M. L. King and black culture

Steve Garrison
Staff Writer

To celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. Day and the Inauguration of America's first African-American president, The Office of Student Activities, with help from Project Achieve, an integrated TRIO/Student Support Services program dedicated to enhancing the college experience, organized a week long celebration of black culture and history.

Beginning on Jan. 20, and continuing until Jan. 22, the events ranged from serious to playful, and were created for the specific purpose of involving students in the cultural history of America.

On Tuesday, the center bridge was turned into a viewing area, so that students could watch, in a communal atmosphere, President Obama's inaugural celebration.

"We lined up viewing areas to watch the inauguration on that Tuesday since it seemed appropriate for us to watch, especially since it followed the holiday to celebrate MLK's birthday," said Pam Dilday, student activities coordinator.

Wednesday a student panel was held, moderated by Betsy Oudenhoven, vice president of student development and Dennis Haynes, vice president of academic affairs.

Students were asked various questions concerning MLK's legacy; specifically, where we have come in American history and what we as students need to do to get where we are going.

"The students who participated in the panel were excellent," said Dilday.

Events on Thursday were celebratory in nature. A game reminiscent of "Hollywood Squares" was organized, with staff and faculty taking

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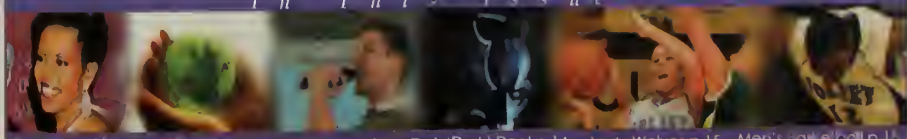

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Tuition hike not the answer

EDITORIAL

We understand that the economy is in shambles and the country is in the worst shape it has been in since the Great Depression.

So we shouldn't be surprised by the fact that Joliet Junior College is proposing an 8 percent tuition and fee hike for next year due to declining state revenue.

While we're not taken aback by this news, we are outraged at the proposal to raise tuition, *again*.

If the plan passes, students will pay $95 per credit hour compared to the current $88 per hour.

We understand that tuition raises happen from time to time, but the fact that last year, tuition was raised just short of 16 percent (with much of that going to the Master Plan) forgive us, if we don't want to shell out more money to attend JJC.

According to David Agazzi, the vice president of financial affairs, the tuition increase just keeps the budget balanced and it could be worse if more cuts are made by the state.

> While we're not taken aback by this news, we are outraged at the propasal to raise tuitian, again.

One would think that with enrollment up 9.8 percent from last year, giving JJC its highest headcount ever, the college would be receiving more money than ever before, but apparently that's not the case. It also should be noted that even with the record enrollment, classes are just now starting to reach full capacity.

But if we're so hard up for money, how do we get a $73,000 grant for the JJC campus to go green? It doesn't make any sense.

And we don't want to think about what the tuition raise would have been if the Master Plan hadn't been approved.

And if you're serious about making cuts, a good place to start would be the college's public relations campaign, before you implement another tuition increase.

The Pop Culture Commentary with Shelley Halmgren

How fashion worked the election

Iconic fashion publisher John Fairchild once said, "'Style' is an expression of individualism mixed with charisma. Fashion is something that comes after style."

This past election year an influence swept over voters that hadn't made itself evident since the reign of Kennedy, fashion. The campaigner of this movement was none other than the First Lady herself, Michelle Obama. Although some may argue that *fashion is not a notable influence* in a campaign – it is. This is a woman that mirrors the mantra 'dress for success' in an authentic form.

With her sense of vigor and style, the First Lady proves that to be respected in the Capitol does not mean to have to resort to mannish pant-suits and a cemented scowl (right Hillary?) Instead, she is now frequently being compared to the previous queen of political fashion, Jackie Onassis Kennedy.

Although Michelle has echoed Jackie in a few of her outfits, it is more so the attitude that has transcended from one generation to the other. Mrs. Obama's wardrobe does not only express that she has a keen sense of style, but that she is a confidant woman.

She is not willing to be the dismissive 'little lady' behind her Commander-In-Chief husband. Instead, she stands next to her husband, supporting him, and broadcasting to voters, especially female, that this is the type of woman that can stand proudly in these trying times.

Although there was another fashion presence on the campaign trail, this nuisance's fashion stake was long forgotten after it was revealed that it came with a reported $150,000 price tag. According to the New York Times, the Alaskan's wardrobe cost was attributed to be "campaign accessories." Interesting… I wonder how many other "campaign accessories" went unmentioned during the election…

Congrats, Sarah Palin, because while the rest of the country is facing the recession, your priorites are obviously how your Manolo Blahnik's go with your Gucci suit. At least she still has the consolation of having *some* supporters in the country – conveniently they are all located on Saks Fifth Avenue.

> Cangrats, Saroh Polin, becouse while the rest of the country is facing the recessian, your priorites are obviously how your Monolo Blohnik's go with your Gucci suit.

Mrs. Obama's style may have done more than upraise her to Jackie O status – she may have influenced the economy as well.

After appearing on The View on June 18 of last year wearing a black and white printed sundress, women immediately dubbed it the "Michelle dress" and the item flew off the hangers. The dress, designed by Donna Ricco, only cost $148. Throughout the campaign, Michelle's signature frocks have been in demand from female shoppers and possibly likened the idea that maybe what this country really needs is some retail therapy.

The Donna Ricco dress is just one of many items that Michelle has incorporated in her wardrobe that is consumer friendly. Other memorable outfits of hers have come out of such cheap and chic retail chain stores such as J. Crew, H&M, White House/ Black Market and Target. Yes – that's right, Target. Now you too can shop like the First Lady without having to re-finance your house (which hopefully you *can't* see Russia from.) Alongside atypical consumer duds, Michelle also supports upcoming young designers like Narciso Rodrguez as well as Jason Wu, who designed Michelle's stunning one-shoulder Inauguration ball dress.

Now, I only wish now that Michelle could have taken Ms. Aretha Franklin aside during the inauguration and kindly told her what a hot mess that bejeweled head-piece she wore really was.

The legacy doesn't end there, however. It is reported that Aretha's -er-hat is to join the other memorable pieces from the election in the Smithsonian. Now generations to come can take note of things not to wear on your head. You're welcome.

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MICHELLE'S FASHION TIMELINE

June '08 — Jan '09

June 3	June 18	Aug. 25	Aug. 28	Sept. 26	Oct. 27	Nov. 4	Jan. 20	Jan. 20
St. Paul Rally	The View	Democratic N.C.	DNC Finale	Presidential Deb.	Tonight Show	Grant Park	Inauguration	Inaugural Ball
Maria Pinto	Donna Ricco	Maria Pinto	Thakoon	Thakoon	J. Crew	Narciso Rodriguez	Isabel Toledo	Jason Wu

Graphic by Shelley Holmgren

Illinois most corrupt U.S. state

Jim Sheldon
Co-Editor-In-Chief

Illinois' official slogan is the "Land of Lincoln," but a similarly suitable description would be the "Land of the Crooked Politicians."

In a recent column published on Bayoubuzz.com, Jeff Crouere states that it is a time fur celebration in Louisiana, as they are no longer the most corrupt state in the nation. The "award" now belongs to us, Illinois.

While the state has been known to produce the occasional clean and upstanding public servants (Abraham Lincoln and Barack Obama come to mind), it has more often than not, produced the filthy, greedy and dishonest kind.

Take for example, former Gov. Rod Blagojevich, who was convicted on corruption charges and removed from office on Jan. 29 by a unanimous 59-0 vote in the Illinois State Senate. This, after he was accused of conspiring to sell President Obama's vacated United States Senate seat to the highest bidder.

Sadly, the people of our state are used to their governors having legal trouble. Reach as far back into Illinois history as you want and your hands will likely come out dirty. Blagojevich is the sixth Illinois governor to be subjected to arrest or indictment.

The trail of corruption started with Joel Aldrich Matteson who served as governor from 1853 to 1857. He tried to cash $200,000 of stolen government funds that he "found" in a shoebox.

He pulled that old excuse "how did that get there?" and escaped indictment by promising to pay the money back, the right thing to do when one knows they've been busted.

Next on the corruption train was Lennington Small who served as governor from 1921 to 1929. He was indicted while governor in 1922, of embezzling $600,000 and running a money-laundering scheme when he was state treasurer.

Despite substantial evidence against him, he was acquitted and went on to serve seven more years in office. After his trial, four jurors got state jobs, raising suspicions of jury tampering.

In 1965, four years after he left office, former Gov. William Stratton was indicted on charges related to the misuse of campaign funds and also tax evasion.

While he was acquitted, his successor, Otto Kerner, wasn't as lucky. Kerner served as governor from 1961 to 1968. He resigned as governor in May of 1968 to become a judge on the United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit.

In 1969, Marge Lindheimer Everett, manager of Arlington Park and Washington Park racetracks, admitted receiving bribes from the governor and his finance director, Ted Issacs. They were promised favorable racing dates in return for shares of stock. The scandal came to light because Everett deducted the value of the stock she gave on her federal income tax returns under her theory that bribery was a necessary and normal business in Illinois.

Kerner was convicted in 1973 of bribery, conspiracy, income tax evasion, mail fraud and perjury and was sentenced to three years in prison.

Cell Block Tango: Rod Blagojevich (left) and George Ryan (right)

Graphic By Shelley Holmgren

Prior to Blagojevich, the last Democratic governor of Illinois was Dan Walker who served from 1973 to 1977. His troubles began after he left the gubernatorial office.

He started a savings and loan business and was indicted for making $1.4 million in fraudulent loans, which he used to pay for personal expenses including maintenance of his 80-foot yacht. The federal government later bailed out the bankrupt S&L and Walker served 18 months of a seven-year sentence in federal prison.

And of course we can't forget former Gov. George Ryan who served from 1999-2003. Prior to serving as governor, Ryan was the secretary of state from 1991-1999, which is when he ran into some problems.

In 1994, a fatal track accident that killed six children outside Ryan's office unintentionally exposed a scheme inside his office in which unqualified truck drivers obtained licenses through bribes. The investigation referred to as Operation Safe Road took years to complete and when it was complete, 79 people were charged including Ryan.

He was found guilty in April 2006 of 18 felony counts including racketeering, conspiracy, mail fraud, tax fraud and lying to the FBI. He is currently serving a six-year prison sentence in Indiana.

And those were just the governors. After former secretary of state Paul Powell's death in 1970, a search of his home revealed shoeboxes full of hundreds of thousands of dollars in checks made out to him by unsuspecting Illinois residents who thought they were paying license plate registration fees. Fooled ya!

Criminal charges have also followed Illinois politicians to Washington. Former Illinois Rep. Daniel Rostenkowski pleaded guilty to reduced charges of mail fraud in connection with a scheme in which he traded postal stamps for cash and used his account at the House stationery shop to buy gifts. He served 15 months in prison and paid a $100,000 fine. He was pardoned in December of 2000 by former President Bill Clinton.

So there you have it Illinois, you are the most corrupt state and Louisiana has nothing on you. It's not something that I would brag about though.

For the most part, what I write in my column derives from what is closest to my mind at the time. This past week the focus of my time has been on two things: a residential design for a state competition and an hour exam for my plant pathology class. In between both of these events I had an opportunity to speak with a successful landscape architect to critique my design concept, leaving me with three critical concepts to a successful garden.

First, the importance of design in your garden is critical to success. Creating a garden without a plan leaves your garden with a lack of movement, repetition, focal points, and usefulness. As I drive I often look at the local trends of landscaping.

Most often I can tell if people have planned their garden or if they haven't. Looking at an unplanned garden, I see sporadic plantings that have no central theme, but rather, its as if the homeowner sees a pretty plant at Home Depot and plants it next to the one they bought last week shopping for toilet seats.

A little tip about buying plants with one year guarantees: take advantage of it! Knowing your plant material will pay off when Lowe's is selling an annual as a perennial and you take it back next year receiving another free annual. A plan also ensures a more vigorous garden because you can plot out the right plant for the right place.

Arborists and plant health care companies stay in business taking care of plants that have been planted in the wrong spots. We should all know that rhododendrons in full sun with our Midwest heavy clay soil, will NOT work!

Take time before planting to research different ideas for plants and where they can work in your garden. It will save you time and money in the long run. Finding this information is a lot easier than you may think.

There are numerous organizations offering workshops and lectures on various gardening topics. Some that come to mind are offered by organizations such as: Chicago Botanical Garden, Illinois Landscape Contractors Association and Morton Arboretum.

For free, or a small fee, you can easily find the resources you need in order to create a successful garden.

Helpful Websites:

- Mortonarb.com
- Chicagobotanic.org
- ILCA.net

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JJC gets grant for sustainability

Katherine Boehle
Staff Writer

Joliet Junior College, like other colleges and corporations, has been putting a great deal of effort into going green by reducing pollution in order to improve the quality of life on earth.

JJC has started the effort by installing more energy-efficient light-bulbs and reducing paper waste by using iCampus.

To add to their efforts, JJC has received a $73,000 grant from the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) in order to start a sustainable energy program this spring.

'We're very excited about this program,' Amy Murphy, director of JJC's Corporate and Community Services, said.

"We partnered with the Technical Department to put together a program that will help people in the trade learn the latest technologies for both residential and commercial energy systems."

Partnering with the technical department, the college has started five, 6-12 week non-credit programs in sustainable energy. These programs will teach professionals the training they need in order to build energy efficient homes, buildings and offices.

The programs can be taken by professionals like technicians, plumbers and contractors who want to expand their business by being able to install green technology, like solar panels, windmills and other green technology.

A couple of classes have already been taught and the department was surprised by the diverse group of people that showed up. Quite of few people were just everyday civilians looking into getting green technology, like installing solar panels and windmills. Thanks to the state grant, JJC can offer these programs at a very low cost.

In addition to the programs, the technical department is applying for another grant in hopes of building a futuristic, energy efficient building next to the 1800's school house outside of D-building.

This building can be looked at by people interested in building more energy-efficient homes and they can look at this building as a demonstration of green technology. This way, people can see the options they have when turning their house green.

The grant received for the program is a 3-year grant and should double and then triple in the coming years. If you want to learn more or are interested in signing up for these great programs, call (815) 280-1418 or visit: http://www.trainingupdate.org/

Non-Credit Energy Programs Offered on Campus

Energy Systems Fundamentals
These courses cover the basics of building envelopes, HVAC, lighting, insulation, glazing, plumbing, and electrical systems.

Renewable Energy Systems
This is an introductory program dealing with principles, concepts, and applications, of renewable and alternative energy technologies.

Building Systems Maintenance
Several topics on energy efficiency for building operators will be covered.

Residential Energy Systems
These courses focus on single- and multi-family dwellings and will cover systems design in both new and retrofit buildings.

Institutional Energy Systems
Different types of energy efficient technologies used in commercial, industrial, and high-rise buildings will be studied.

Energy Equipment Troubleshooting
This is a second tier program made up of four classes which include maintenance, operations and diagnostics of electrical and HVAC systems, and two of four possible electives in system specialty topics.

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News Briefs

Auditions announced for The Rimers of Eldritch
The JJC Fine Arts Theatre announces auditions for The Rimers of Eldritch by Lanford Wilson on Thursday, Feb. 5 at 3:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. and Friday, Feb. 6 at 5:00 p.m. People who are interested in auditioning are asked to prepare a one minute monologue from a modern drama. It is preferred that the monologue is memorized, but you may read from a script.
For further information, please contact the director, Cloy Kirkland at 815-280-2706 or the theatre office at 815-280-2200

American Red Cross Blood Drive
The American Red Cross is hosting a Blood Drive, Mon., Feb. 9 on the Center Bridge from 9:00 a.m.-3 p.m. Bring photo ID. Appointments can be made by calling ext. 2202 or stopping by the Wellness Office, H-1015b on the Bridge. Walk-ins are welcome but appointments are preferred.

Poet Jack Wiler to Visit JJC
Jack Wiler will be at JJC for a talk and book signing on Feb. 10 from 2:30-3:30 p.m. on the Bridge.
Jack's latest book, Fun Being Me, is available in the bookstore and will be for sale at the reading Mark Daty has praised the book as being "rock-bottom genuine, totally direct, and disarmingly moving." Even if you don't like poetry, you'll like Jack's work.
Refreshments served before and book-signing held after the talk.
This event is brought to you by OSA, the Wordeater, and the Honors Program.

Movie: The Great Debaters
Black History Month activities continue with a showing of the "Great Debaters" starring Denzel Washington on Feb. 11. Movie will be shown on the TV on the Bridge all day and then a special showing from 5:00-7:00pm will also occur.

JJC hosts Relay for Life kickoff

Keisie Lofdahl
Staff Writer

Contributing to nearly every major cancer discovery, The American Cancer Society has saved more than 10 million cancer patients lives, with the help of Relay for Life.

Relay for Life offers everyone in a community an opportunity to participate in the fight against cancer.

It raises funds and spreads awareness in support of the American Cancer Society's mission to save lives and help people who have cancer.

Cancer such as breast, cervical, colon, and prostate. With raising funds, researchers are able to be more effective with treatments like chemotherapy, radiation, and bone marrow transplants.

In order to raise funds and participate in this active fight, several different teams need to be put together. During the Relay, there are teams because this is an overnight event and 24 hours in length. Each member of a team takes turns walking or running around a track or path. Usually teams of people camp out, and prepare themselves for their walk or run.

Being apart of Relay for Life brings everyone in a community together to make a difference in many lives. The community represents hope, support, and strength to those who have cancer, lost someone to cancer, or those who have survived cancer.

On March 27-28, 2009, from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Lewis University's Field House the Relay for Life will take place. If anyone is interested in making a difference and being apart of something great, register for Relay for Life by talking to Amy Sims, Office of Student Activities and Holistic Wellness.

MLK from page 1

the position of squares, and students the position of contestants.

Staff and faculty are asked questions by the contestants concerning MLK's life and students have to ascertain the validity of their responses, either choosing the answer provided by staff or supplying their own.

If the contestant is correct, either in his response or the one supplied by the staff, they receive the square as their own. Students win by claiming three connecting squares in a column, row or diagonal, as in the game tic-tac-toe.

MLK Squares was humorous and educating as well.

"We had students and staff there to share hints for questions and laugh along with the squares and students," said Dilday.

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Amanda Rottschalk

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1 You get a lot of exposure to the real world. I'm a nursing student," says Amanda Rottschalk. "In my next clinical rotation, I'll take on the nursing care for a pediatric transplant patient."

2 As a transfer student, you're just one of us. About one in three of our students comes to us with experience at another college or university. We understand your academic needs.

3 The transfer process is easy and personal. Our admission counselors will advise you on the course credits you'll need to make your transition to Elmhurst simple.

4 You can afford a great college education. And we'll help! Last year, we offered more than 300 scholarships to transfer students. More than 86 percent of our students receive financial aid.

5 The college guides have spoken: Elmhurst is among the best in the Midwest. We're "top tier" in *U.S. News* and *The Princeton Review* calls Elmhurst "a small college with a big bang."

6 Elmhurst looks like a college ought to look. The campus is an arboretum with trees from around the world. It covers 38 acres and has 25 buildings, each designed to support your academic and personal development.

7 You'll have your choice of more than 50 majors. Whether you know what your major will be or you're still exploring the possibilities, we'll provide you with an ideal environment to plan your future.

8 In over 100 student organizations, you'll get your chance to lead. Transfer students routinely hold top positions in our Student Government Association, award-winning student newspaper, and throughout campus life.

9 "Elmhurst follows through on its promises. They said they would help me make sure all my credits would transfer, and they did," says Andrew Behling. "They said the faculty would get to know me, and they have."

10 An Elmhurst education is intensely practical. Each of our majors offers both cutting-edge theory and plenty of opportunities to practice how the theory actually works in the real world.

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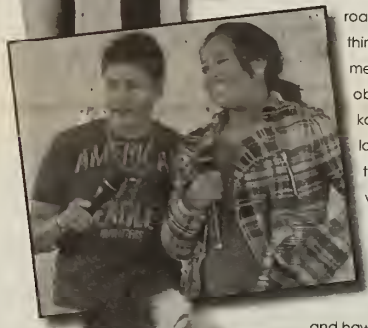
JJC Theater

KARAOKE TIME

Photos by Katherine Boehle

According to the National Public Radio, karoake recently has been used for something other than sublime embarrassment. In Cambodia, the villagers learn about safe water habits through karaoke – singing songs about love... and orsenic bacterio in the water. Although it isn't a very likely combination, rest assured, the only thing that JJC students learn from their karaoke explorations is how to have a good time and how to entertain a crowd.



Musica Viva series kicks off with faculty piano recital

Allie Johnson
Staff Writer

On Jan. 25, the Joliet Junior College fine arts department had a faculty recital. Music professor Daniela Broderick performed two pieces on the piano.

The first piece of the program was a sonata in F Major by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. The piece had three movements that varied from allegro (walking speed) to Presto (very fast). To many the name of this piece means nothing. You draw a blank about how it may sound.

However, once the music begins almost everyone would recognize it to be the music of many commercials. So even a non music major could understand and appreciate it.

The second piece of the program was Preludes Opus 28 by Frederic Chopin. The set of twenty four short pieces are said to be modeled after an extraordinary piece by Johann Sebastian Bach entitled the "Well-Tempered Clavier."

AJ: When did you begin playing the piano? And what made you want to start?

DB: When I was eight years old, my mother's friend bought a piano for her daughter. I saw it and asked my mother if I could take lessons.

AJ: Who is your favorite composer and why?

DB: I don't think I can say that I have one favorite composer. It depends more on what I am working on at the time. Most of my favorite music comes from the Baroque and Classical periods.

AJ: Is there a piece that is most inspiring to you?

DB: If I had to choose, I would say the "Well-Tempered Clavier" by Bach. I also like the "Goldberg Variations."

> "I really felt like I learned more by teaching and I really love it."
> - Daniela Broderick

AJ: When did you come to the United States and where did you begin playing upon your arrival?

DB: I came to the United States in 2000 to the state of Colorado where I began my Masters at the University. I then came to Chicago in 2003. I like Chicago, but I do not like the weather coming from Brazil and all.

AJ: How did you know you wanted to teach? Did you teach in Brazil?

DB: It kind of just happened. I was playing and I needed a career to make some money. I really felt like I learned more by teaching and I really love it. As for when I was in Brazil, I taught only a little, some private lessons.

Before coming to JJC, Broderick taught at Moraine Valley for five years. She is also currently working on her Doctorate of Musical Arts in Piano Performance at the University of Illinois. She is writing her dissertation on the Mozart sonata from the program.

She has preformed at the *Cathedral Concert Series* in Joliet and the *Saturdays with Brahms* series in many concert halls in the United States and Brazil. Broderick had a solo performance with the Rio de Janeiro Federal University Orchestra where she received an award along with the many awards she has received from several competitions.

I truly enjoyed the musical styling of Professor Broderick. Her Flawless performance seemed effortless. Not only could you feel the emotion from the music she was playing, you could also see the emotion in her face.

A fellow audience member said that Broderick much have been exhausted after such an amazing performance, since she herself was exhausted.

Mainstreet returns to JJC

Jenna Miller
Staff Writer

Mainstreet 2009 kicked off Jan. 28 and continued through Jan. 29. Located on the bridge and concourse, between the hours of 10:00 am to 1:00 pm, students had the opportunity to visit numerous departments and check out over 40 clubs that Joliet Junior College has to offer.

Upon entering through the doors into the concourse, the Office of Student Activities was graciously greeting students with popcorn, cookies and cider.

Along with food and beverages, OSA also gave students the chance to win prizes such as an iPod and an iHome.

"Mainstreet gives faculty, students and staff a great ability to view all of the organizations that JJC has to offer and allows everyone a chance to get involved," said Amy Sims, the coordinator of the Student Activities.

> "As a new student, Mainstreet definitely grabbed my attention and made me more conscious of all the opportunities this school has to offer."
> - Danielle Griffin.

The variety of groups ranged anywhere from political to manufacturing; spiritual to multicultural.

"As an organization, it is our job to promote foreign languages and cultures to the many students who stop by our booth," said secretary and Collegiate Club Council rep of Sigma Delta Mu / Alpha Mu Gamma, Mallory Tortorelli.

Some groups had a spread of different food and candy to gain students attention, while others, like the Criminal Justice Club took a different approach using Guitar Hero for students.

"As a new student, Mainstreet definitely grabbed my attention and made me more conscious of all the opportunities this school has to offer," said Danielle Griffin.

If any students did not have a chance to stop by Mainstreet 2009, the Joliet Junior College website presents a full list of all the clubs and organizations.

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Stadium Status rocks Tunes at Noon

Steve Garrison
Staff Writer

On Jan. 23, students rushing back and forth to class were greeted by the hip-hop ensemble Stadium Status, a group that blends the sounds of Jurassic 5 with the commercial viability of Kanye West.

Stadium Status is comprised of three members: The Undefined, Proof Rock and Point Blank. All three members hail from the Chicago land area; Plainfield, Chicago, and Aurora, respectively, and have been collaborating together for about a year.

Stadium Status were given an opportunity to showcase their new album, "Living in a Def World," and put on their first performance, because of the opportunities presented by Tunes at Noon, a program organized by student events coordinator Pam Dilday.

The intent of this new program is to open up the commons area for students interested in artistic expression through public performance.

The Undefined was the individual who found out about the program, through advertisements around the school and previous performances.

"I would always come here and see people singing," states The Undefined, who attends JJC and is currently majoring in pre-nursing.

Seeing a performance the previous semester by Young PK encouraged him to sign his own hip-hop group up.

Stadium Status is one of several young, local groups to take advantage of MySpace.com and its growing community of artists. They met several producers through the site, who provided samples and support to their first album, including Glass City Kid, Mouf and most notably, Rufio, a producer well known in the Bay-Area "Hyphy" music movement.

"He [Rufio] was one of our first producers who was actually pretty good," states The Undefined.

They are currently producing an entire album with him.

Stadium Status finds inspiration for their work in several varied sources, including Lupe Fiasco and Kanye West. Lupe Fiasco has gained fame for his solo work on his two, Grammy Award-winning albums, "Food & Liquor" and 2007's "The Cool".

> "Basically, every verse that I write, I try to talk about stuff that has really happened to me in my life."
> - Proof Rock

Point Blank, a native of Central Florida, finds inspiration in more personal sources, such as the loss of his mother and his subsequent moving to Aurora; where he performs with various hip-hop groups and attends college.

"Musically, what inspires me? I won't lie, it's a little hard. I'm from down South, so I listen to, you know, other stuff. I was mostly into T.I. and Outkast and stuff like that. It was a little weird, they were from up here and I was from down there, so there was some conflict."

That conflict is what makes the group so unique, however. A blend of southern-fried hip-hop and underground artists, Stadium Status succeeds at sounding like nobody else coming out of the hip-hop right now.

When asked what it takes to make it as a hip-hop artist, all three members agree that being true to oneself is essential.

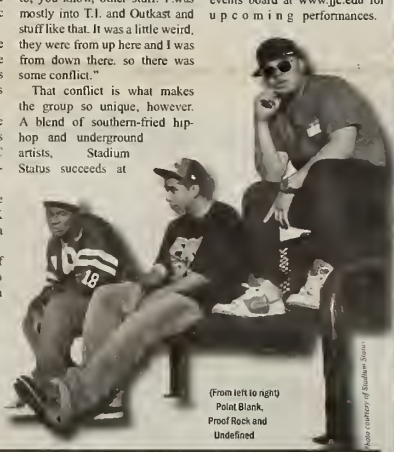
"Basically, every verse that I write, I try to talk about stuff that has really happened to me in my life."

Proof Rock doesn't think being truthful is enough however.

"I say it's just skills, because you could have a good career with skills, you might not be the biggest star, but you'd still have a career."

For anyone who wants to check out the group, or interested in hearing their new album, "Living in a Def World," go to www.myspace.com/stadiumstatus101, their album is free to download. If you want to see them live, check out Battle of the Bands, Feb. 20 from 6-11p.m. in the Main Campus Cafeteria.

Tunes at Noon is an ongoing program as well and hopefully more artists will be performing in the upcoming months, so keep an eye on the student life events board at www.jjc.edu for upcoming performances.



(From left to right) Point Blank, Proof Rock and Undefined

Photo courtesy of Stadium Status

Question of the Issue

What were your thoughts on the Inauguration?

[Reaction to Oath mix-up] I thought even with the mistakes, the history of the event overpowered the minor mistakes that had taken place.
- Emmanuel Shaw

[Reaction to the address] It was a really well-done speech. He has a lot of great plans for global policy and the economy. And he has done a great job so far in his first week in office.
- Nick Worthem

I was basically in tears when President Obama gave his inaugural speech. I could almost smell the change. I couldn't be more thrilled when Bush made his departure, in fact, I'm just plain giddy.
- Stacey Adams

I thought it was awesome! It shows that you really can be anything in this country. It's wonderful that a man can instill new hope in a nation in a time of need.
- Steve Evers

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The Pillars of Fitness

RJ Leibe
Staff Writer

Dedication is the key to many, if not, all things that are worthwhile. Gaining size, strength and endurance is not done overnight, nor is it a process not attainable. We all would like a beach body in which every chick gawks at (or for the ladies, all men look at) and it all begins with motivating yourself to become dedicated and to set goals.

I'm RJ; I've been working at a gym for the past three years and have learned a lot about the traits to become a solid fitness gym goer and see results. I've talked to many bodybuilders, fitness models and personal trainers asking for the secret on how to better your shape in the most convenient and fastest way.

What I've learned and have attained from my own knowledge will be noted here for anyone that is willing to commit themselves to become more physically active.

A lot of people believe there is a quick fix to stay in shape, whether it's the new fat burning pill that says you will lose 20 pounds in 10 days or the new protein powder that claims to pack on 20 pounds of muscle in five days. Most believe that is correct.

Now, when I say it might not be correct, I do not mean it will not aid in your goals (which it will). The correct way to go about this with people is to understand that we need to supply our bodies with good, whole food: a diet.

Aiding on what you plan to be your goals (lose weight, gain muscle, maintain fitness) you can build solid meals around your diet. For instance, if you want to gain muscle you shouldn't go to the nearest McDonald's, but to the nearest grocery store to pick up chicken. The idea is to fuel your body with the correct food.

When you go through a diet it is recommended you eat 6-7 small meals instead of basing your meals around three. It enables your body to fully digest what is nutrient wise.

It is noted throughout the hallways of how much someone can bench.

"I can bench 400 stacked."

While this may be true, it is important to know that form is key and not many people correct their forms. It is best when training to ask a personal trainer or someone who is working at the gym to correct your form if it is needed. It's vital to working out the correct way, to get the most benefits out of the workout.

There should usually be 10 minutes of a light run or jog to loosen up your body and to get blood flowing to the muscles. What is recommended throughout workout programs is a hard, fast workout in which you are constantly keeping your heart rate up. It's vital to your body to push yourself and keep striving forward.

Your Health: Octuplet Health Conspiracy

Kat Kozlowski
Production Manager

COMMENTARY

As many JJC students may have seen throughout news coverage over the last week, the second set of all live-born octuplets was born in the US.

The unwed mother, Nadya Suleman (Doud), 33, already has six children between the ages of 2 and 7 and lives with her parents in Whittier, Calif.

Is it truly a good idea to go through with a high-risk multiple birth with octuplets, especially when the mother already has 6 children to begin with?

Many fertility specialists make suggestions to not even proceed with more than quadruplet births and to abort a few of the embryos.

And many more believe that it was a bad decision on both the specialist and the mother's part to even implant that many embryos at once.

Considering the US fertility industry has guidelines stating how many embryos can be implanted, and that the suggestion is one or two for women under 35, we might want to be questioning how this woman managed to be implanted with all eight embryos without being stopped at a certain number regardless of her approval.

I myself have been questioning the mental and financial stability of the mother since the announcement that she has already had six children previous to the new eight and has been obsessed with having children since her teen years.

> Perhaps having 14 children may be more than just a financial and sanity burden and may be casting us the earth in the eyes of those who prefer to follow the "green living" regiment.

And considering the fact that her parents filed for bankruptcy in 2008, I find this whole situation to be heading in the direction of a disastrous result.

I'm assuming about half the country is still trying to figure out how on earth Suleman (Doud) will have the capability to raise all of her children without worry or problems, let alone how she will pay her medical bills and future bills without any public aid.

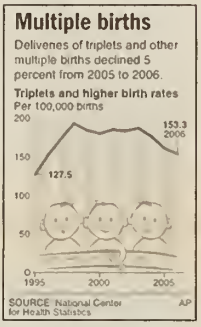
The English government's green adviser, Jonathon Porritt, believes that anyone having more than two children is being an irresponsible parent by furthering global warming.

Perhaps having 14 children may be more than just a financial and sanity burden and may be casting us the earth in the eyes of those who prefer to follow the "green living" regiment.

This may come as bad news to the mother of 14 if she prefers to follow the green lifestyle.

However, how healthy this is for the mother and the family is the biggest concern at the current moment in time.

With the risk of postpartum depression at an ultimate peak after a multiple birth, and the tragic history of some mothers that have gone so far as to the point of slaying their children, there is a large concern for how well this whole situation will unfold overall.



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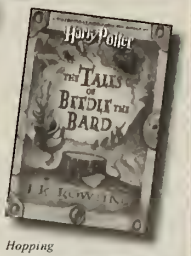
J.K. Rowling still has her magic

Katherine Boehle
Staff Writer



J.K. Rowling became famous for her critically acclaimed, best sellers, the Harry Potter series. When she came out with the final book in the summer of 2007, *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows*, it was wondered if she would continue writing, and if so, would she stay within the world of Harry Potter?

Well, she answered everyone's questions when she came out with her latest book on Dec. 4, *The Tales of Beedle the Bard*. When I picked up her book at the bookstore, I was shocked by how thin it was.

I was even more shocked, when I opened up the book and saw the size of the text. After all, the Harry Potter series is well known for having books up to 800 pages long. However, since it was J.K. Rowling and her books keep me in my seat until I finish them, I was pleasantly surprised to be finished in an hour instead of a day or two.

Although, another part of me is quite upset that it didn't go on for 800 pages. *The Tales of Beedle the Bard*, is a collection of five wizard fairy tales by Beedle the Bard that have been translated from ancient runes by Hermione Granger, and after each story we get commentary by the well-known and wonderful wizard, Albus Dumbledore.

Each story even has its own illustration. In a way, these stories are kind of like the Grimm brothers who have written famous fairy tales such as *Cinderella*, *Snow White* and *Sleeping Beauty*. Just like the Grimm brothers, a few of these stories are quite bone-chilling and are actually not meant for children to read.

The fairy tales contained in this book include, *The Wizard and the Hopping Pot*, *The Fountain of Fair Fortune*, *The Warlock's Hairy Heart*, *Babbitty Rabbitty and her Cackling Stump*, and a fairy tale that her final book of the Harry Potter series has a great deal to do with, *The Tale of the Three Brothers*.

What was fascinating about these fairy tales meant for wizard children is that they each teach different concepts about how wizards are supposed to live. *The Wizard and the Hopping Pot*, teaches to always help others, including muggles, and *The Tale of the Three Brothers*, that death will always find you.

The story that was by far my favorite was *Babbitty Rabbitty and Her Cackling Stump*. This story is about a wizard fraud who says that he'll teach the muggle king magic.

When the king says that he must be able to create magic for a show by the following day, he asks the witch laundress who does the king's sheets, Babbitty, to perform magic so that he shall not be beheaded for being a fraud.

The ending of this fairy tale puts a smile on your face and can certainly teach a good lesson about the consequences of being a fraud. All in all, those of you who couldn't put down any of the Harry Potter books will love *The Tales of Beedle the Bard* just as much. J.K. Rowling always seems to write with a touch of magic and this book is no exception.

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NOW NOW EVERY CHILDREN SENDS INDIE MUSIC IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION

Kat Koziowski
Production Manager

Imagine popping in a Now Now Every Children album, a band you may have probably yet to hear of, into the CD player.

I am well aware of the fact that CDs are out of date so perhaps even iTunes will be the culprit of the first time you hear the debut album from NNEC entitled *Cars*. Being unaware of what's to come, you sit and wait for the music to load and begin to play.

Suddenly you're mellowed out after hearing the calm beats and riffs that open the album with the song "Not One, But Two".

Cacie Dalager, the talented vocalist, keyboardist and guitarist that fronts the band, begins to sing and her soft and airy voice continues to mellow your mood. Her calm singing continues to lace into the beats throughout the entire album.

The one thing one might not expect from this album is a sudden upbeat when track two, "Everyone You Know" begins to play. The interchange between a cheery and mellow pace is intricately balanced throughout the album.

Within a personal favorite song of mine "Friends With My Sister" NNEC takes you to a whole different level of amazing. The song begins with relaxed piano and glockenspiel (a cousin to the xylophone for those of you who are unaware of this instrument) coupled sweetly with Dalager's voice and suddenly booms into a surprise riff that begins an amazing bridge of unexpected "rock out" mode halfway through.

The energy of "Friends With My Sister" continues on through "In My Chest" with one of the best mixes of percussion, keys, vocals, guitar and bass.

I can't help but sing along with Dalager's catchy and easy to learn lyrics such as "I have what it takes and I will have the space/and I am packing a suitcase/and I am coming with you to the west coast/but it's not my home/but they know that I'm good at keeping things/in my chest in my chest." Lest I forget the additional "oh oh oh ohhh oh oh oh" set in the middle of song that does nothing less then add to the great mood I get from just listening to *Cars*.

The more relaxing songs such as "Headlights" and "Sleep Through Summer" have just the right beat to be able to put you in such a state of mind that you feel as though you have disconnected from the world around you and floated into the abyss of relaxation.

Each song has a story behind it from both of the band members Dalager and Bradley Hale (drums, glockenspiel).

Although finding some of the underlying themes of each song may be difficult, such as the fact that the lyric "Tell them all what you've done." in the song "Not One, But Two" is tied into a very subtle reference to the Virginia Tech shooting.

Or the song with the easiest to see back-story "Little Brother" that tells the story of coping with a car accident with lyrics like "And I won't drive until you tell me it's fine/to follow the lines/where we had said goodbye."

However, each song tells their story without asking for any pity or sympathy, moreover they are simply weaving together the narration of the story of the band's life. And the way that NNEC does it should honestly be constituted as an art form. No music I have listened to has been narrated so delicately and laced with hidden stories as well as NNEC does.

If indie music is your scene and you love the sound of bands in range from The Postal Service to Eisley, or even if you just like to discover new bands, this Afternoon Records release just may become your new found love. I know it's become mine.

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Dear Oscar, get a clue...

Shelley Holmgren
Production Manager

This past movie season, my small circle of friends and I decided to make an extra effort to see all of the Oscar nominated films before the actual event in order to discern whether the Academy is a total joke. After seeing the vast majority of the films and taking consideration the actual nominations, I have an answer. Yes, they *are* a joke.

In order to put this in perspective, let's look into one of the major categories of the night; Best Actress. Controversy ensued when Kate Winslet was nominated in the category for her performance in *The Reader* and not *Revolutionary Road*, which was directed by her husband, Sam Mendes. Personally having seen both performances, I believe Winslet's performance was more deserving of an Oscar in *Revolutionary* rather than *Reader*, but hey, what do I know? I'm not a "critic" – I'm just a person that *actually* has to pay to see a movie.

Much like Martin Scoreese's recognition two years ago for *The Departed*, although it may not be appropriate for the specific film the honoree is rewarded for, notoriety is deserved. This will be the sixth time Winslet has been nominated for an Academy Award, making her the youngest actress to do so.

Winslet's body of work is one of the most impressive of her generation and she does in fact deserve a 'gold statue,' although it may have been appropriate to win one a little bit earlier for her performance in *Little Children* than this year.

Although much of the Oscar buzz is surrounding Winslet, I believe recognition should be given to Anne Hathaway for her performance in *Rachel Getting Married*.

In the film, Hathaway portrays Kym, a recovering addict who gets to leave rehab in order to attend her older sister's wedding.

The film is captivating, but even more so is Hathaway's transformation from Hollywood sweetheart to a tortured junkie. Her manner is very subtle, and her portrayal is truly authentic. While Hathaway was honored by the Critics Choice Awards for this rendition, I fear the Oscar's are too ignomnt to recognize this.

And of course, the Academy is not only ignorant towards the females – their unawareness is an equal opportunity oppressor. In the male category for Best Actor, there are several high-profile names including Brad Pitt, Sean Penn, and Mickey Rourke (my personal choice for the win), but there is one name absent from this list – Leonardo DiCaprio.

Now, although Leo probably doesn't need another Oscar nom like Bret Michaels needs hair extensions, his performance in *Revolutionary Road* is exquisite. In his role, he channels a suburban husband that has to come to realize that his wife is absolutely miserable filling her June Cleaver role. What you really see though, is the complete disintegration of a man and what he has come to believe. It is incredibly heartbreaking and I agree with Winslet when she says it is the best performance of his career. And of course he wasn't at least nominated – it is a total injustice I am telling you.

Another category to point out is Best Supporting Actor. Although Ledger is the favorite and deserving predicted recipient for this award, I find it quite odd to find Josh Brolin's name in the category. Don't get me wrong – I adore Brolin, but honestly, if you are going to nominate anyone from *Milk* in this category, let it be Emile Hirsch. His portrayal of Cleve Jones is basically adorable. Okay, I empathize that being adorable isn't exactly grounds for being nomioated; but truly, he is the breakout star of that film and definitely deserves recognition.

Now, as I reflect on how practically bankrupt I have become spending ludicrous amounts of money to see these films AND THEN realizing how perverse the actually nominations were, I come to realize that maybe the Oscar's aren't exactly worth the while. Look at it this way – when an actor wins an Academy Award for a performance, does that automatically mean that they are talented?

Absolutely not! Case in point, Anna Paquin won an Oscar for *The Piano*, but in all honesty, she single-handedly ruined the *X-Men* franchise as well as *True Blood*. Contrary to Paquin there is an actress like Winslet who has never won an Oscar but continue to give exemplary performances.

Overall, there isn't enough time in this rant to go into further detail of all of the Academy injustices this past year. Allow me to put thin in perspective. How serious can you take a group of individuals who award Three 6 Mafia and not Kate Winslet? Yeah, that's what I thought.

CINEMA SCENE

The Unborn

Reviewed by Karla Rivera

The Unborn is a horror/suspense film written and directed by David S. Goyer (*Blade* and *Batman Begins*). The plot is uniquely different from the other films that I have seen in the same genre.

The movie starts with Casey Beldon (Odette Yustman) in a dream where she sees a small boy with bright blue eyes and a dog wearing a mask. The next day when she's babysitting for her neighbors' newborn and four-year-old sons, the four-year-old hits Casey in the face with a mirror.

Afterwards, Casey's eyes begin to change color and she discovers that she once had a twin brother that died at birth and why her mother left her when Casey was young.

She begins to get haunted by a dybbuk, which is a demonic spirit that cannot leave the human world and enter heaven so it looks for a person's body to inhabit. The image scenes are convincing since they are terrifying and gruesome.

The demonic spirit is the soul of her dead twin brother that wants to be born again. The spirit begins to hurt anyone that she loves and gets stronger with each possession. Casey meets a woman named Sophie (Jane Alexander), a holocaust survivor who happens to be her grandmother.

Sophie tells Casey that she had a twin brother who was killed in Auschwitz when they were children because of Nazi experiments. The child came back to life by a dybbuk that used his body as a passage into this world. Sophie killed her twin brother to stop the dybbuk, but it resulted in haunting her family for revenge.

Sophie advises Casey to remove all mirrors from her home, break, burn and bury them.

She also gives her a wind chime that will sound when an evil spirit is near and tells her to visit a Rabbi Sendak (Gary Oldman) that could help her more.

Casey needs his help for a Jewish exorcism to be performed. The exorcism is performed in an abandoned building with Rabbi Sendak and several religious persons including Casey's boyfriend Mark (Cam Gigandet).

The dybbuk tries to stop them from completing the ritual by taking over the persons' bodies. It is defeated but enters the body of Casey's boyfriend which results in his death. Despite the negative reviews this film has received, *The Unborn* did well on its gross revenue having $43.3 million worldwide.

The scenes are convincing since they are terrifying and gruesome and that's why I greatly enjoyed watching this movie for the entire 88 minutes.

But I believe many points were missed because the story moved too quickly, leaving the viewer questioning the ending.

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Blago scripted something more creative than his own demise

Matt Sheehan
Staff Writer

I am a Democrat.

I voted for Rod Blagojevich.

And I am glad he is out of office for good.

Blago was a travesty to our fine state. He hypocritically forced every state government worker—including public colleges like Joliet Junior College—to take a test on ethics in order to be employed by the state. He (allegedly) tried to auction off President Barack Obama's vacated Senate seat.

But most of all, he was cocky all the way through, from his Dec. 9 arrest through his impeached rear removed from office on Jan. 29. All of this made Illinois the butt of jokes for talk show hosts on both coasts.

However, he did accomplish some things that were significant and surprisingly, helpful and substantial. Am I defending him in any way? Hell no. I am just merely pointing out the good he accomplished that wasn't paraded in front of him at press conferences with the elderly and blue-collar Illinoisans.

He banned smoking in enclosed public places, raised the state minimum wage and protected us college journalists with the College Free Press Act.

Yet, to this budding film critic, Blagojevich did something all the more important and vital to this state.

Graphic By Matt Sheehan

The Windy City is conquered by the joined efforts of Angelina, Batman, and Johnny Depp. Who would ever see this one coming?

On Dec. 15, 2008, Blagojevich signed a new tax incentive bill for entertainment production companies filming movies and TV shows in the state, raising the tax credit to 30 percent from 20, made effective on the first day of 2009.

According to the website of the Illinois Film Office, a 30 percent rebate applies on Illinois salaries up to $100,000 per worker. This means those "below the line" workers—key grips, caterers, extras—from our fair state, means extra tax breaks for film companies.

Eligibility for the tax credit states that $50,000 must be spent on productions with a length of 29 minutes or less and $100,000 for over 30 minutes.

And in this economy with film production companies tightening their money belts, this rebate rivals only the states that have higher tax rebates (Michigan offers up to 42 percent, for example) but could mean more cameras on Michigan Avenue, along the Chicago River and inside the walls of Joliet Prison.

Especially in the city of Chicago, there once was a bright spotlight on our state in the world of entertainment. Dating back to Alfred Hitchcock filming at Midway Airport in 1959 for *North By Northwest*, through the 1970s with Paul Newman and Robert Redford in *The Sting*.

The 1980s were the heyday for Chicago on the main stage: *The Blues Brothers*, *The Untouchables*, *Ferris Bueller's Day Off*, *Risky Business*, *Sixteen Candles* and *National Lampoon's Vacation* to name a few classics, if not, influential works of cinema.

This rise to entertainment prominence lead to *The Fugitive*, *Home Alone*, *A League of Their Own* and *Wayne's World* shot within our borders. Other than those few shining hits, the 90s saw a slump in filming. Even the Oscar-winning musical Chicago was filmed primarily in Vancouver, Canada using exterior shots of the city.

It wasn't until the new millennium, that new life was breathed into the Illinois film scene. The Clooney, Pitt & Co. remake of *Ocean's 11* had several moments of not just being shot here but taking place in the Windy City.

That awesome fight between Spider-Man and Doc Ock in *Spider-Man 2*? It may have been New York City but those buildings whizzing by as the battle takes place on top an elevated train was sweet home Chicago. Clooney and the boys (and girl in Julia Roberts) returned for Ocean's 12, Tom Hanks evoked images of classic Chicago in *Road to Perdition*.

Additional big names like Nicolas Cage in *The Weather Man*, Will Ferrell in *Stranger Than Fiction* and Jennifer Aniston in *Derailed* (Okay, that last one is crap, but it was filmed closer to home at the Joliet Prison on Collins Street).

However, it wasn't until a certain Caped Crusader really kicked filming—and this all-important bill—into gear.

When director Christopher Nolan was outlining the script to *Batman Begins*, the script called for an underground road. Nolan reportedly thought immediately of Lower Wacker Drive in downtown Chicago. Nolan, who lived in our town with his brother for a short while, was also said to be so impressed with the outcome of what was initially shot that he wrote more in the script to be filmed here.

This leads me to three little words: *The Dark Knight*.

The second highest-grossing film of all-time didn't have Christian Bale's Batman jumping off any old rooftops: they were Chicago's.

In fact, watch the movie, and I dare you to spot as many city locales as I have. Chicago WAS Gotham City. All the more ironic was filming in a city known for mob influence over the police when the script called for just that in Gotham.

As *The Dark Knight* was shooting in Chicago in the summer of 2007, Angelina Jolie dropped into town to shoot part of Wanted, including a thrilling sequence of her, with shotgun blasting, hanging off the side of a Dodge Viper as it races through downtown streets. Heck, the mode of transportation for the group of assassins she belongs to in the film, is the "L" of Chicago.

In 2008, director Michael Mann (Heat, Ali) brought his crew to Chicago to film Public Enemies, which brought Christian Bale back to the city as FBI agent Melvin Purvis as he takes down the gangsters of the 1920s and 30s.

This film brought one of the most bankable stars of recent box office memory, playing one of the most famous gunned-down men of classic Chicago: Johnny Depp as John Dillinger.

Mann and Depp went all about the area, even at the aforementioned Joliet Prison. I only knew for sure he was there when Little John's in downtown Lockport had a sign outside saying "Johnny Depp Eats Free Here."

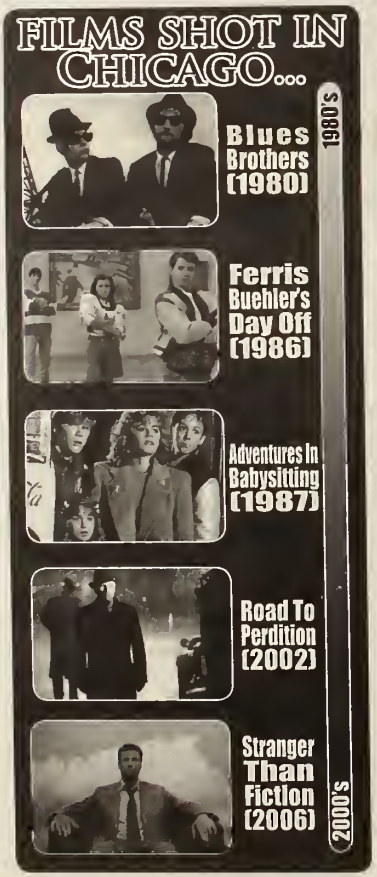
Even TV shows have found life here. Gone is the memory of Hill Street Blues, transplanted with the first season of "Prison Break" and Patrick Swayze's new A&E series "The Beast".

So you see? Blagojevich did do something right: he has attracted big names to Illinois for production companies to hire local actors and crews to take part in something special.

Only problem is now Blago may have to find a job tearing tickets at a multiplex.

I hope I don't have to pay extra for my seat.

However, it wasn't until a certain Caped Crusader really kicked filming—and this all-important bill—into gear.



Forward Christine Wallen draws some contact against the College of DuPage on Jan. 13. Wallen had 8 points for the game.

Photo By Mike DiNovo

Lady Wolves extend winning streak to three

Jake Widlowski
Sports Editor

The Joliet Junior College women's basketball team has been on a see-saw type ride over the past two months. The Lady Wolves (11-9 overall, 3-1 N4C play) could not seem to get any sort of a winning streak going and would consistently win one then lose one.

On Jan. 13 JJC picked up their first N4C conference win of the season with a 69-61 victory over the College of DuPage. Tiana Nobles had 17 points and Martha Benjamin added 16 points in the game.

"We knew going into this game that it was going to be a tough one and we battled it out," said first year head coach Shaun Sanderson.

A week later the Lady Wolves got off to a slow start in Palatine and could never catch back up in a close 64-61 loss to Harper College. Despite the loss Benjamin had a standout game with 22 points and 15 rebounds.

> "We knew going into this game that it was going to be a tough one and we battled it out."
> - Head Coach Shaun Sanderson.

Starting on Jan. 24 however, the team has been able to string off three wins in a row now. The first win began with a 95-68 thrashing over Wilbur Wright College on the road and the second win was against Triton College 76-52 on Jan. 27.

On Jan. 29, a pesky Robert Morris College Junior Varsity team came into Wills gym and gave the Lady Wolves a tougher game than their previous two. However, JJC was able to outlast the Lady Eagles and won the game 71-58.

The team was led by two freshmen stars Nobles from Joliet Central High School who had 17 points and Christine Wallen from Bishop McNamara High School added 15 points.

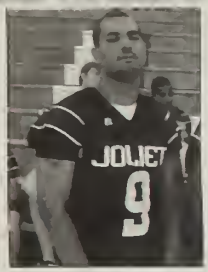
The win was a team effort all around and all nine players on the Lady Wolves roster scored in the game.

After two straight road games the Lady Wolves will come back home for a non conference game against Kankakee Community College on Feb. 5.

JJC will play their seventh conference game of the season two days later against Harper College at 5p.m.

Athlete Profile
John Edwards

Jake Widlowski
Sports Editor



John Edwards

In November of 2004, 17-year-old John Edwards had just completed a successful season on the football field and was ready to start the basketball season. As a starting guard on the Hillcrest High School basketball team, Edwards and his fellow teammates were ranked number one in the preseason polls in the state of Illinois.

Expectations were high and the team only improved as the year went on. But eventually Hillcrest suffered a disappointing loss to end their season just short of a state championship.

Edwards moved onto Joliet Junior College after his senior season and began to play sports for his new college. He started his freshman year off by playing football and was also on the basketball team.

Edwards excelled in both basketball and football but he wanted to pick one and just focus on being the best he could at that sport. He ultimately chose football.

> "All my life my coaches have had a big influence on me and I wanted the opportunity to give back."
> - John Edwards

Things didn't work out as planned and at the beginning of this season, while at two-a-day practices for the football team, Edwards severely hurt his shoulder and had to have season-ending shoulder surgery.

"I had so much on this one year and all of a sudden it was all gone. I came to JJC to get my degree, but I also wanted to have the chance to play football somewhere after JJC," said Edwards. "I couldn't even watch football on TV. It was just a very depressing time for me."

With time off from football and other sports, Edwards wanted to find something that he could do so he would still be involved with athletics.

While on his way to school one day he drove past the YMCA on Houbolt Road, and decided to go inside and ask about any coaching positions available. He walked out with not only a head basketball coaching position, but also a job as a counselor for an after school program at the YMCA.

Edwards is the coach for a high school aged competitive league team and is currently in his second season coaching.

"All my life my coaches have had a big influence on me and I wanted the opportunity to give back. If I can't play then I want to coach, and that's something I want to do forever."

Edwards either wants to become a firefighter someday or transfer to Eastern Illinois University where he wants to major in Physical Education and continue his coaching career while being a PE teacher.

Upcoming Lady Wolves Games

Thur. Feb 5 - Kankakee Community College
Home - 5:30 p.m.

Sat. Feb. 7 - Harper College
Home - 5:00 p.m.

Tue. Feb. 10 - Wilbur Wright College
Home - 5:00 p.m.

Thur. Feb. 12 - Olive-Harvey College
Home - 5:00 p.m.

Wolves prepare for stretch run

Jake Widlowski
Sports Editor

The Wolves are well past the mid-way mark in the season and only have eight regular season games left before the Region IV tournament.

For the Joliet Junior College Men's basketball team the remainder of the season will be a time to gather team unity and prepare for a long post season run and most importantly, to wrap up another N4C conference championship.

Since starting the season at 7-3, the Wolves have steadily improved to 18-4 and 3-1 in the N4C.

Beginning on Dec. 20, the Wolves rattled off a 10-game winning streak that included two wins over conference opponents.

During the stretch, JJC's offense was very impressive and seemed to put up big numbers every game. The Wolves averaged 85 points per game, and even had four games in which they scored over 100 points during the 10 games.

One game that especially stood out for the Wolves was the Jan. 10 victory over the College of Lake County, a game in which head coach Joe Kuhn won his 250th game as the coach of JJC. The team won the game by a convincing margin, 109-62, and the players seemed determined to win it for their coach.

Eight players scored in double digits including sophomore Brandon Williams who had 17 points and 9 rebounds.

"When you place eight guys in double figures, that's a definite plus. You can't ask any better than that," said Kuhn.

Despite the obvious momentum the team was carrying, the streak all came to an end on Jan. 27. Coming into the conference matchup against Triton College the Wolves were ranked #5 in Div. III, and Triton was ranked #7 in Div. II according to the NJCAA polls.

The game was highly anticipated and was evenly matched throughout the contest. Triton held a slim halftime lead of 34-29. The turning point in the game was around the eight minute mark with Tritonholding a four point lead, when JJC freshman Brandon Redmond committed a technical foul.

The Triton guard sunk both free throws and consequently sunk an immediate three pointer. The game had gone from a four point deficit to a nine point deficit in a matter of seconds and the Wolves could never catch back up.

The game ended in a 65-56 conference loss and the team's first loss in over a month.

Free throws also plagued JJC late in the game and prevented them from making any sort of a comeback.

"You can't shoot 14-33 from the free throw line, make 25 turnovers and still beat a good team," said Kuhn obviously disappointed after the loss.

Just two days later, the Wolves rebounded nicely with a quality home win against Truman College 84-47. Redmond led all scorers with 19 points, but Teray Whisby and Neal Hudson both added 18 points as well.

The Wolves' roster has slowly diminished as the season has progressed. The team started with 14 players but is now down to an eight man roster.

But Coach Kuhn is not worried about late season fatigue or anything else that comes with a shortened lineup.

"We made it to the national championship in 2005 with 6 players. What really matters is if the players that you have can play," Kuhn said.

JJC will play their next home game on Saturday Feb. 7 against conference opponent Harper College at 7 p.m.

LeAaron Pierce slashes through the lane against College of DuPage on Jan. 13, Pierce had 14 points in the game.

Photo by Mike DiNovo

Male athlete of the issue / Female athlete of the issue

By Jaki Widlowski

Sophomore from Hobart, Ind., Neal Hudson is having a great season. In the past seven games he is averaging 16 points per game. In the Wolves' win over DuPage on Jan. 13, Hudson scored 17 points and also grabbed 7 rebounds. He scored 22 points against Olivet Nazarene JV on Jan. 22, and in his most recent game against Truman College on Jan. 29, he added 18 points.

Freshman Tiana Nobles scored 17 points on Jan. 29 against Robert Morris JV and also added 17 in the win over DuPage on Jan. 13. She is averaging 10 points for the season and also 4 rebounds per game. Nobles will have to continue to contribute to the team in order for the Lady Wolves to stay ahead in the N4C conference standings.

Joliet Junior College
BLAZER
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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2009 VOLUME 81 ISSUE 7

Photo by Katherine Boehle

JJC Vet Tech student Jessi O'Connel gets hands-on experience with 8-year-old ball python Ozzie.

ANIMAL INSTINCT

Vet Tech hosts annual open house for students and community with events ranging from raffles to pet adoptions and a petting zoo

Katherine Boehle
Staff Writer

Originating in 1999, Joliet Junior College's vet-tech program has bosted an annual open-house where people interested in the program can get a look at the program and the students. But it's also a popular event for families to come and learn more about animals and veterinary medicine.

The open-house offered refreshments like brownies, cookies and punch, and also had a raffle for many prizes such as pet blankets, cat scratchers, pet beds, pet carriers and much more pet prizes like an electric nail trimmer. They also offered a kids raffle for a handful of kid prizes like children's animal books and games.

One of the popular features of the open-house is the petting zoo. This year, the animals included Lattie, the white pekin duck, Lady, the Alpine goat with her one-week-old baby, Lily, a guinea pig, a rabbit, and five

See ANIMAL p.4

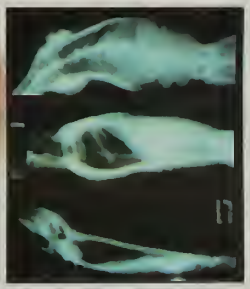


Photo by Katherine Boehle

As a part of the open house, visitors were able to get a glimpse of reptile x-rays.

A different kind of education

JJC students promote healthier habits during Sexual Responsibility Week

Kelly Hitt
Staff Writer

In an effort to promote sexual responsibility, Joliet Junior College bosted a Sexual Responsibility Week on Feb. 2 through Feb. 5.

Amy Sims, coordinator of Student Activities and Holistic Wellness at JJC, organized and bosted the Sexual Responsibility Week along with sponsors, the Will County Health Department and Sexual Assault Services.

There were various presentations and events for each day of the week that occurred on the bridge at JJC, including the bed which was donated by the JJC theatre department that could be signed all week long. The significance of signing the bed was to get the students at JJC thinking about how many sexual partners they are exposed to when they have sex with one person that bas bad multiple partners.

The week kicked off with a health professional from the Will County Health Department speaking to JJC students about STIs (Sexually Transmitted Infections) and protection against them.

Sims said that she felt students knew the least about STIs/STDs and sexual protection in regards to sexual education and responsibility. She was pleased with the turnout of students.

On Feb. 3, there was an informational presentation on HIV/AIDS given by Sherri Morrow, a campus counselor.

JJC bosted the Sexual Assault Services group from the Guardian Angel Home on Feb. 4. They presented and educated students on sexual assault and awareness, specifically drug-facilitated sexual assault.

The week wrapped up with members of the Will County

see WEEK page 4

Essence of Africa

JJC professor Dr. Edward Senu-Oku gives overview on a nation's history

Shelley Holmgren
Production Manager

As a part of the events of Black History Month, on Feb. 19 from 11-12 p.m. on the center bridge, Joliet Junior College professor Dr. Edward Senu-Oke gave a presentation of the history of Africa. With a successful turnout for the event, Senu-Oke covered topics in African history spanning from the first civilization in Pangaea, all the way to present day with the arising of the blood diamond conflict in areas like Angola, Liberia and Zimbabwe.

In his discussion of early African civilizations, Senu-Oke brought emphasis of the importance of water.

"The belief of early Africans was that of whoever controls the water, must be God. Water was considered to be the harbinger of life – if you destroyed the source of water, you were defacing the essence of God," said Senu-Oke.

The epicenter of early African civilizations surrounded bodies of water, including the Niger River as well as the Nile River,

see AFRICA page 3

Parking not 'sexy', but we need more of it

EDITORIAL

We struggled with trying to come up with a topic for this issue's editorial. We could have written about sex which seems to be the popular thing to do to attract readership, cough College of DuPage, cough.

But we decided that we weren't going to sink that low to "sell" out. Some things are better left unsaid and unpublished.

Instead, we decided to write about something near and dear to our hearts, some questions that we have for you, JJC.

For starters and maybe this is just us, but doesn't it seem like the plowing has slowed down? Did we forget to pay the plow tax? We don't understand why parking lots don't get plowed until they are completely snow-covered, leaving students to play "Find the parking spot" as we did on Jan. 14 when people just parked wherever because they couldn't "see" the lines.

> We don't understand why parking lots don't get plowed until they are completely snow-covered, leaving students to play "Find the parking spot" as we did on Jan. 14 when people just parked wherever because they couldn't "see" the lines.

While we're on the subject, let's bring parking in general into the discussion here. Considering that we have our largest enrollment ever, more students are on campus at a time than ever before. So logic would say we need more parking spaces. However, we have the same amount as always which explains why some of us have to play everyone's favorite game, "Parking Lot Roulette" where you drive around for 20 minutes looking for *a* parking spot!

Then there's the proposed tuition raise that we wrote about in the previous issue. We haven't heard anything else about that.

For those of you that don't know, the college is considering an 8 percent tuition bike due to the lack of state funds. Thanks Rod!

These are just some questions that we would like some answers to, changes have been made and we just want to know why.

The Pop Culture Commentary with Shelley Holmgren

The famous & the furious...

What happens when Hollywood is in desperate need of some anger management?

Call me crazy – but it appears to me that life in Tinsel Town has been looking less than glamorous lately. Start over a year ago with the tragic passing of Heath Ledger, to the horrendous murder of *American Idol* star Jennifer Hudson's mother, nephew, and brother, and fast forward to the present with the recent felony charges being brought against hip-hop star Chris Brown.

Seriously, is there something in the water? Because Hollywood seems to now be taking example from bot mess Courtney Love rather than queen supreme Helen Mirren.

The Barbados native, Rihanna, formerly known for her hypnotizing hits "Umbrella" and "Disturbia" as well as her ferocious fashion sense, has brought felony charges of domestic violence against her! now ex-boyfriend, Chris Brown.

According to the *New York Times*, the incident occurred at approximately 12:30 a.m. on Feb. 8 while the couple were leaving a pre-Grammy party at the Beverly Hilton. An argument ensued in the rented Lamborghini with Brown behind the wheel and according to reports, Brown struck Rihanna several times before fleeing the scene. Brown later turned himself into police and a bond of $50,000 was posted for the "Forever" singer. Although the investigation is still underway, if found guilty of the charges, Brown faces jail time.

Rihanna, birth name Robyn Rihanna Fenty, as well as Brown were scheduled to perform at the 51st Grammy Awards, but declined to appear after the previous day's event. Recently, a photo that has been reported to have been taken at the scene has been circulating the media waves. The photo, that has been attributed to be the hip-hop princess herself, first appeared on TMZ before making a wildfire manifestation on every gossip publication. The Los Angeles Police Department has no knowledge on how the photo was leaked, but a full investigation is underway. Rihanna's father, Ronald Fenty, was very displeased about the photo release, calling the incident "sloppy work on [the LAPD's] part."

Several stars like Kanye West, Will Smith and wife Jada Pinkett-Smith as well as Akon have spoken out on Rihanna's behalf. Because nothing brings Hollywood more together than a felony charge! Right Martha Stewart? Personally, I could never trust Brown, for the reason that you shouldn't normally trust someone who has to rip off lyrics from a gum commercial to make a hit. Double your pleasure, double your jail time, right?

> Personally, I could never trust Brown, for the reason that you shouldn't normally trust someone who has to rip off lyrics from a gum commercial to make a hit. Double your pleasure, double your jail time, right?

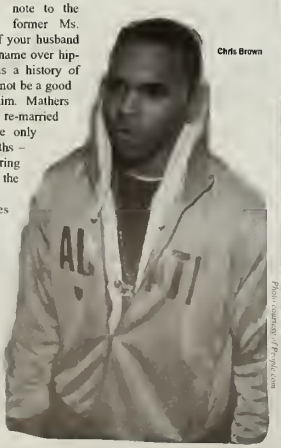
And seriously, a guy needs a psychological evaluation when he lays a hand on one of the most stunning women in Hollywood. He was aware that he was dating Rihanna, right? Maybe he should consider entering a not-guilty by reason of mental illness plea. Either that, or brush up on his legal jargon.

Another famous example of a celeb in desperate need of a hug is rap superstar Marshall "Eminem" Mathers. Throughout his successful career, Mathers' lyrics have been full of aggressive connotations and themes of violence against women, in particular, about his mother and ex-wife Kim Scott. Although formal charges have never been pressed, Scott on several occasions has divulged about her former husband's tumultuous temper. According to E! Online, in June 2000, felony concealed-weapon and assault charges were brought against Mathers after he pulled a gun on nightclub employee that then-wife Kim has been apparently kissing. A note to the former Ms. Mathers: maybe if your husband has defaced your name over hip-hop beats and has a history of violence, it might not be a good idea to cheat on him. Mathers and Scott were re-married in 2006, marriage only lasted a few months – so curious considering it went oh so well the first time…

Other examples of celebrities going wild include former *Baywatch* star David Hasselhoff allegedly assaulting his wife during their marriage (I guess we now know what happens when we "hassle the hoff.") and former Olympic figure skater Tanya Harding pleading not guilty to assault charges brought by her boyfriend. Hmm… let's think about this… this was the woman who attacked Nancy Kerrigan, right? Wait a minute that must have been the other Olympic figure skater with abusive tendencies…

Even daredevil Evel Knievel was not immune to an angry episode. On Oct. 9, 1994, he was accused of battering a woman, but charges were later dropped due to lack of evidence. You would never expect this from a guy who risked his life as a daily profession – I'm sure his daily routine was so stress-free.

No matter how the cookie is crumbled, assaulted, or defaced in a hip-hop song, it goes without saying that Hollywood should stop living by the mantra "fight for your right to party." Instead, how about "give peace a chance"?



Chris Brown

Photo courtesy of Photobucket.com

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Photo by Shelley Holmgren

Dr. Edward Senu-Oku takes questions during his presentation on Feb.19.

AFRICA cont.

which is regarded as the longest river in the world.

Senu-Oke also explored the progression of religion in Africa, beginning with the early influence of the Europeans and Christianity. From there, he examined the practice of polytheism, the worshiping of several gods, and the devotion to early idols. Raised in Badagari, Nigeria, Senu-Oke notes that this is where church missionaries first reached out to African communities. He arrived in the U.S. in 1971, when the country was in the core of the Vietnam War.

Senu-Oke notes his inspirations to be his family – his father fought for Nigeria's independence, his mother taught him to never be afraid. Senu-Oke also attended missionary school for several years and notes the Anglican Church to be a large influence in his life.

With the election of 44th president Barack Obama, Senu-Oke notes that this is the most significant period in the history of Africa. He continued to stress that this accomplishment is another instance of our advancement as a society.

"Over time, our history will define us as a people who has improved and improved over time," said Senu-Oke.

Senu-Oke's overall message of the presentation was the idea of cross-cultural connections, stressing the need to begin to embrace people from other parts of the world. He believes that making these connections will bring the world together on a global scale. He also noted that much like the Preamble of our nation's constitution, the nation must continue to mirror the ideas of equality in our everyday lives.

"What really will bring equality is the willingness to share each other's pains and each other's problems," said Senu-Oke.

Following Senu-Oke's lecture, the two winners of the Martin Luther King Jr. essay contest, in which students were asked to tell how MLK's bravery has affected their life, read their essays.

The first place winner was Shanda Watts, 18. Hesitant to apply, and surprised by her success, Watts won $150 for her efforts.

"I wanted to try something new," Watts said.

The second place winner was Anthony Isaiah Morgan, a dedicated student who volunteers for Project Achieve, collected $75.

"The fact that I live in a multicultural world," Morgan said, when asked what MLK's work has done for him.

Congratulations to the following residents of Centennial Commons for excelling academically in the classroom during the Fall 2008 semester. Best wishes for continued success from the Joliet Junior College Office of Residential Life.

Boone Tyrek	Mazzaro Daniella
Brown Lindsay	Medema Hope
Carroll Donald	Metzger Tiffany
Delegal Jordan	Morgan Anthony
Fields Juan	Morrissey Joseph
Hixon Andrew	Rodriguez Brenda
Hugenberg Michael	Roscoe Chad
Jackson Earnest	Savinova Daria
Jackson Rashad	Simmons Chad
Lowe Latoya	Trgovich Jason
Luth Mandy	Troupe Ray
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Preparing people to lead extraordinary lives

WEEK from page 1

Health Department as well as JJC professors, Dr. Falahi-Kharaghani and Dr. Senu-Oke, speaking and educating students on the importance of making informed and responsible (sexual) decisions.

According to a recent article on WebMd.com, Harvey Feinberg, MD, President of the Institute of Medicine, stated to lawmakers in Washington and to the Government Reform Committee that abstinence-only programs have failed to show evidence of delaying kids' foray into sex or in staving off teen pregnancies for those who do have sex.

Feinberg pointed to a study of sexual education programs conducted by the Cochrane Collaboration. Out of 13 studies testing abstinence-only programs, none showed "an enduring effect" on teens sexual behavior.

The article goes on to say that 23 of 39 studies of programs combining abstinence advice with education about condoms and other contraception found "at least some" effect on adolescents' (sexual) behavior, to which Feinberg responded, "That doesn't mean that they worked very, very well."

Additionally, Sims recommended an informational website, smartersex.org, where young adults with questions can find tidbits of sexual health information and answers. This website is managed by the Bacchus Network, a non-profit organization that focuses on promoting health and safety information to the communities. Smartersex.org has everything from polls and questionnaires, to information on STDs and sexual myths.

One myth that was found on smartersex.org was that condoms can protect you from all STIs, this is a myth! While condoms are very helpful, effective, and will protect against STI's that are transmitted via bodily fluid, they will not protect against those transmitted via skin contact such as the Human Papillomavirus.

Sims felt this event was important young adults are not being educated in sexual responsibility. "Young men and women appear to be more interested in the instant gratification of sex rather than the emotional relationship. It is our responsibility to provide them with the education to make responsible and healthy decisions," said Sims.

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News Briefs

Chili Supper in Coal City to benefit St. Vincent de Paul

A chili supper will be held on Saturday, Feb. 28 from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Berst Center, 245 S. Konkokee St in Coal City. All proceeds will benefit St. Vincent de Paul. A free will offering will be accepted for the supper. The dinner will feature Jim Vehrs' award winning chili, white or regular, hotdogs, salad bar and cornbread. Everyone is encouraged to come out and support St. Vincent de Paul of Coal City. St.Vincent De Paul Food Pantry provides services to the needy and are in need funds.

Gem-Mineral-Fossil Show at College of DuPage

The Earth Science Club of Northern Illinois is sponsoring a Gem-Mineral-Fossil Show that will take place at the College of DuPage on Saturday and Sunday, March 14 and 15, 2009.
This show provides students and faculty an opportunity to speak with many individuals actively searching for and collecting fossils. The event will feature live and silent auctions of minerals and fossils, dealers of these materials, demonstrations of lapidary and jewelry making, a kid's corner with participation, museum exhibits (both the Field and Lizzadro), a geode cracker and refreshments. This show takes place between 10:00 and 5:00 on Saturday and 10:00 and 4:00 on Sunday in the Commons Room at Building K. Parking and admission is open and free for everyone. The website is www.escani.org.

ANIMAL from page 1

cats that were up for adoption.

Other rooms included the surgery suite, teddy-bear ER, the treatment room, the clinical pathology room and the laboratory.

The teddy-bear ER was a room with all life-like surgery tools, and teddy bears that were dressed in surgery gowns complete with masks, caps, and plastic gloves. Except instead of performing on a dog, they were fixing ripped seams in stuffed animals and teddy-bears.

"The teddy-bear ER was actually a new event for this year," says Jan Walters, coordinator of the event. "It was a student's idea that has turned out very well!"

The exotic animals' room was also popular stop for people. The room included reptile skeletons and x-rays with books of the reptile's anatomy system set in front. There were also live animals such as rats, a cockatoo, a bearded dragon, geckos, and Ozzie the 8-year-old ball python.

The laboratory had many displays with pictures and tools including those on horse-hoof anatomy, cow-birthing, cow-castration, dehorning, de-worming, vaccinations, and tagging. They also had eight microscopes set out with slides displaying a louse, a tick, a close up on a tick pincher, parasitic eggs, tape worms, heart worms, whip worm and whale blood.

The open-house also included animal adoptions with 10 cats and 11 dogs (all of the dogs had already been adopted).

The students and faculty seem enthusiastic about what they do and are more than willing to answer any questions that you might have. If you're an animal lover who loves to learn new things, this is just the event to go to, and if you missed out this year, it's highly advised that you make it next year!

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Nationally recognized poet visits JJC

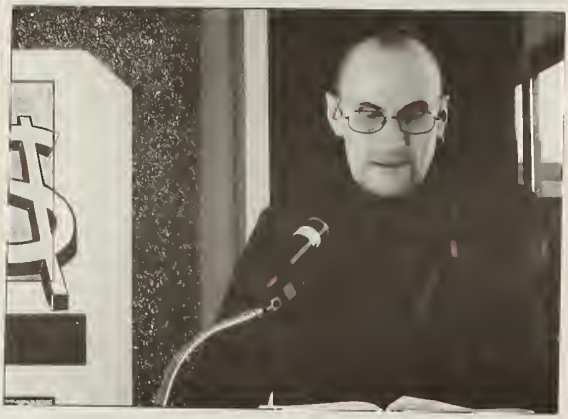

Photo by Alicia Diamond

Nationally renowned poet Jack Wiler performed excerpts of his collections of published poetry to JJC students on the bridge on Feb. 10.

Steve Garrison
Staff Writer

"You're not going to learn anything today."

With that stated, Jack Wiler began reading from his two collections of poetry: 2006's *Fun Being Me* and the self-published *I Have No Clue*.

Born in Wenonah, New Jersey, Wiler, a short, thin, muscular man with dark eyes, has been writing poetry since 1978.

Gifted with a unique voice, he struggled to find a form of expressing himself.

"I can't sing, paint, or dance… so that leaves poetry."

He graduated from college, and, like many young artists, had trouble deciding how to pursue his art. Teaching was out of the question; Wiler never wanted to go back to high school or college.

So he got a job and forgot about poetry for a few years before a friend dragged him back into the scene.

Shortly thereafter he joined a writers group called US1 that met in the Princeton Area. While attending US1, Wiler began to develop his poetic voice.

Wiler's first published poem was in a magazine put out by the writers group; a three-part piece about his mother and death.

"It got published because all of us had a lock on getting in," said Wiler.

Despite his modesty, Wiler's poetic resume is extensive. He has been published regularly in *Long Shot Magazine*, and was editor of the publication for six years.

He works with the Geraldine Dodge Foundation in New Jersey as a visiting poet in schools, and has performed extensively in the New Jersey and New York area.

He has been anthologized in such poetry collections as *Aloud, The Outlaw Anthology of Poetry*, and, most recently, *Bum Rush the Page*.

"Most people have feelings, and dreams, and fears that they don't know how to articulate. Artists, by accident or on purpose, articulate all those things and more."

New Jersey; the culture, topography, and people, are prevalent in Wiler's work.

"I wanted to stay true to the place I was in."

Also prevalent in his work is his personal struggle with AIDS, problems with his family and friends and broader issues such as war and violence.

For this reason, and his sometimes misanthropic attitude towards people, Wiler's poetry can come across as bleak or depressing, but as Wiler puts it, "One of the joys of this world is that life isn't just a cherry lollipop."

Christine Latour, a JJC educator and friend of Wiler, organized the reading. Wiler's original intention for flying into Chicago was to attend the Annual Association of Writers & Writing Programs, or, the AWP, where he was asked to be a panel member for the discussion, "The Poetic Response to AIDS".

Wiler is uncomfortable with his diplomatic role as an artist representing AIDS, however. "I actually think that the only poetic response to AIDS was, and is, individuals trying to deal with the loss of their lives, and the lives of their loved ones," said Wiler.

Wiler's reading was a success with students.

"He's just really raw," said Venus Wisinski, a second year student. "I really enjoyed that he was the epitome of an average Joe."

Wiler continues to write, becoming more productive as he grows older, and has finished his next book of poetry, yet to be published.

Wiler's advice to future poets:

1) ALWAYS WRITE
2) SEEK OUT OTHER PEOPLE THAT WRITE AS WELL
3) LEARN WHAT YOUR VOICE IS
4) NEVER STOP WRITING

"The poem you write now is just part of the larger poem you write every day." -Jack Wiler

The Pillars of Fitness

RJ Loebe
Staff Writer

In the last issue I proposed that a diet and a good warm up are vital in working out. That's not to overlook the fact that a solid workout program is also a necessity if one expects to lose fat or gain muscle.

You must be able to come into the gym ready to push yourself to really see results. If one expects to come in on a treadmill for 10 minutes and call it a day, they will not see the desired results.

Working out should be a fixture in all our daily lives and it should revolve around pushing ourselves to see the results we wish to obtain. There are two different main types of workout programs to use when gamering in the weight room: Strength and hypertrophy training.

Strength training works different muscle fibers than a hypertrophy program does. The strength program, in which I am going to incorporate, is using the muscle fibers that won't necessarily make your muscle 'stretch' or grow as much as a hypertrophy program will.

Strength incorporates your basic compound movements (1-6 reps) in which you won't pass your 6th rep. Strength is *vital* if one wishes to continue to break down tissue in the future in a hypertrophy program.

For example, if one is subjected to a strength program he or she is issuing a rep range of 1-6 for bench press. It's highly recommended that people do a cycle variation of a program. For instance a 6-week strength and 6-week hypertrophy cycle can work wonders as you are hitting both ranges of your muscle fiber.

Hypertrophy, in simplest terms, means muscle growth. You're hoping to stimulate a muscle growth in rep range of 8-12. In order to really tear your microfibers up and to rebuild bigger tissue, you should look at the higher rep ranges (this does not mean to overlook strength).

So for people looking to grow bigger arms or have a bigger chest, they should look at a range of 8-12 reps per set. Sets incorporated should always be around 3-4(for both strength and hypertrophy) per exercise. The total amount of sets for the whole workout should be somewhere between 14-17.

You don't want to over train and destroy your CNS system (central nervous system), instead of making gains you lose yours and your whole body works to catch up to the damage created during an over-training period.

That is another thing many people do wrong, too many sets. It's important to rest, eat right and work hard to produce. Following a set of guidelines in order to workout goes a long way than just going to the gym and doing arms three times a week.

You must work to know your body, and work it hard. In the next issue I'll go into depth on different exercises which bode best for each body part. You'd be surprised by how many bodybuilders find 'flat' bench an unimportant exercise, among others!

Strokes Misdiagnosed

Common among people under 50

Kat Kozlowski
Production Manager

A surprising new finding by the American Stroke Association has discovered that strokes are more common in people under the age of 50 than we were led to believe.

The problem at hand is that hospitals are misdiagnosing many patients below that average age because they are not within the average range of the common stroke patient.

Even more common than we are led to believe is the condition of "silent strokes." A new study by the ASA has determined that although the symptoms of a stroke may not knowingly occur to a stroke patient, the brain damage left behind from the stroke can be seen on future MRIs of the patient's brain.

According to Dr. Norman Kaplan, a clinical professor at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas, "We don't really have a way of ordinarily recognizing this sort of thing, but if it's part of the brain that's not directly involved with motion or our speech, it could impact memory or the mood of the person."

Stroke being the third leading cause of death in the U.S., shouldn't be as overlooked as it is in younger patients, especially with the severity of the condition at hand.

> Stroke experts suggest that regardless of your age you should rush to the hospital if you have any of these symptoms:
> -Numbness or weakness of the face, arm or leg (especially if it only occurs on one side of the body)
> -Confusion and trouble speaking
> -Problems with vision in one or both eyes
> -Dizziness or loss of balance
> -Loss of coordination or difficulty walking
> -Sudden severe headache

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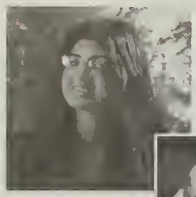

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You are bound to have questions. Talking to your transfer counselor at North Central College will help you find the answers.

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"Mic check... check... check one two..."

Story and Photos by Katherine Boehle

On Friday, Feb. 20, the JJC cafeteria was turned into a performing area. Five different local bands competed for cash prizes by performing their music for 45 minutes. Each band had at least one JJC student in it.

The battle started around 7 p.m, with rap group, *Stodium Stotus* opening the show. Next to perform was *Stop Me Short*, a punk/rock band. Third in line was *Yung PK*, a Christian rap/hip-hop band. Next up was *The Projection*, another punk/rock band. To close the show was *Brun Hilto*, a more classic rock band.

At the end of the show, 4th place went to *The Projection*, 3rd went to *Stop Me Short*, 2nd went to *Brun Hilta*, and 1st went to the Christian rapper, *Yung PK*.

The MC's of the evening was the acoustic band, the *Kunu Project*, featuring Kye Browning and Sam Wohlrab. Between bands, so that the next band could set up, the twosome would perform original music including, *Un Goto en Mis Pontalones* - "a cat in my pants" in Spanish - and *Girls Names* where they chose random girl names from the audience and sung about them.

But Battle of the Bands wasn't all about bringing live music and entertainment to JJC for a fun night, it was also a promotion for going green.

The posters that were placed around campus had the recycling trademark, and the sign was also placed on the tee-shirts that were for sale for $7.

"Student Government's goal for this year was to promote awareness," says Adam Heidenreich, co-advisor of student government, and also one of the judges of Battle of the Bands. "So for *Battle of the Bands* we were promoting recycling. We even moved all of the trash cans out of the cafeteria so that the students would put their used soda bottles in the recycling bins and not the trash."

Stranger than fiction

Comic celebrity Joan Rivers pens new murder-mystery about the Oscars gone awry

Katherine Boehle
Staff Writer

Joan Rivers is famous as a comedian, jewelry-maker, creator of cosmetics, actress and is also well known for writing non-fiction books like *Men are Stupid... and they Like Big Boobs* (a book on plastic surgery), *Don't Count the Candles: Just Keep the Fire Lit!, Bouncing Back: I've Survived Everything... and I Mean Everything... and You Can Too* – and too many others to count.

But on Feb. 2, she wrote her first fictional book with mystery-novelist Jerrilyn Farmer, *Murder at the Academy Awards*, the opening book to a new murder mystery series.

Glamorous Max Taylor and her daughter, Drew, are hosting a pre-Academy-Awards-Red-Carpet show, and competing with other reporters to get their 30-seconds with movie stars. When Drew gets the news that they're going to be getting the one and only interview with Halsey Hamilton, a young, beautiful, movie star, Max is thrilled.

But what they're not up for is when Halsey Hamilton, fresh from rehab, stumbles onto the red carpet, slurring a few sentences, and then drops dead at Max's feet. Everybody assumes that she got an overdose, but Max, who has known the girl since before stardom, thinks that someone else did that to her. Soon, Max begins an investigation to find out who did this to Halsey and won't let anything get in her way.

I must admit that this is a well written, laugh-out-loud book that couldn't have been written by anyone else – *but* it was too predictable. I'm a huge mystery fan and was excited to see a mystery that was written within the world of Hollywood. The book has a lot of exciting twists and turns, but I have to admit that I predicted most of the twists, turns, what had happen, and who had done it, well before the heroine did.

Sure, it feels good to be like "Yay! I solved the mystery!" but in my opinion, a truly good mystery is when you take the reader by surprise with someone you would have never suspected, yet the mystery still makes perfect sense. Joan Rivers failed to have an unpredictable novel, like most mysteries should be.

> I must admit that this is a well written, lough-aut-loud baak that cauldn't hove been written by anyone else – *but* it was taa predictable.

My only other complaint was the name of the heroine's daughter, Drew. Drew is typically a guy's name, and it seemed like whenever I would put the book down and pick it up again, I would have to remind myself that "Drew" is not a guy, but her daughter.

I will give Joan Rivers credit for the laugh-out-loud moments in the book and there were quite a few of them. It is very hard to make readers laugh-out-loud while reading a book, but she accomplished it wonderfully.

I have to admit, even with these two points, it was still a very enjoyable read and I'm happy that I bought it. If you're a mystery lover with comical effect and don't mind if the book might be *predictable*, you should like this book.

Kudos to Joan Rivers who is nearing 80 and is still active in the entertainment industry, and to Jerrilyn Farmer who helped her write this fun mystery. I'll definitely be buying the next book in this series.

Thursday expands sound on 5th album 'Common Existence'

Shelley Holmgren
Production Manager

From the first moment on Thursday's *Common Existence* when front man Geoff Rickly wails "Ambulence – let me in! Don't make me stay here," it is apparent than we are in new territory.

Common Existence is the fifth-studio album from this post-hardcore band from New Brunswick, New Jersey. Recorded with Flaming Lips and MGMT producer Dave Fridmann, this album is a cultivation of thriving guitar-driven melodies, lyrics full of piety and despair, and Rickly's layered acidic sound.

With tracks like "Friends in the Armed Forces" and "You Were the Cancer," the album is definitely *not* an up-lifter. It is, however, a fantastic excuse to take your anger out on the calamity of society (while still remaining a law-abiding citizen).

Throughout their career, Thursday has been a band determined to excavate territory to define their own sound. Their albums have ranged from progressive rock to post hardcore, all the while pushing to all confines of their genre.

The album is a symphony of organized chaos – the sounds are mixed and voracious, but there is still a "common" symmetry throughout it.

The most promising track on the album is "Beyond the Visible Spectrum" – although the melody starts as an archetype of the Thursday sounds, it progresses to a darker, haunting soliloquy. Rickly's vocals are archaic in their rage, but still grasp for an ounce of vulnerability.

Another impressive song on the album is "Subway Funeral," a rough departure from the earlier Thursday track "War All the Time." With emotive lyrics as, "It's a silver thread hanging from the hem of heaven – and you're tied to other end," Rickly is finally defining himself as a song writer.

Although this album has been shredded by other critics, I dare to give this album an honest positive review.

Overall, the album is haunting, alluring and all the more a shining example of why Thursday is still an impressive group.

Common Existence is definitely an album for fans, but if you happen to moonlight as an over-critical music blogger, do yourself a favor and actually give it a chance.

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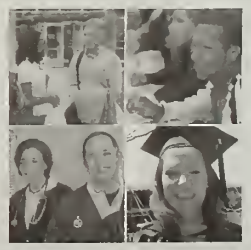

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CINEMA SCENE

The Uninvited

Reviewed by Korlo Rivero

The Uninvited, directed by The Guard Brothers (Charles and Thomas) is a remake of Jee Woon's 2003 Korean horror film *Chonghwo, Hongryon (A Tale of Two Sisters)*.

Anna (Emily Browning) is at a party one night when passing through woods, she comes across several garbage bags and in one; the corpse of a little red-headed girl falls out and speaks to her.

This is a dream that Anna keeps having that does not cease. She has been in a psychiatric institution since the death of her mother ten months earlier.

Anna's father, Stephen (David Strathairn), takes her home from the institution. She is delighted to see her sister Alex (Arielle Kebbel). Anna discovers that Rachel (Elizabeth Banks), her mother's nursemaid, is now her father's fiancée. Rachel wants to erase many memories in the house left by Anna and Alex's mother (redecorating the house, for example).

But Anna feels deceived and finds solace from her older sister, who also feels the same way. They both reconnect in their dislike for dad's new girlfriend since they feel threatened by Rachel's behavior and abandoned by their own father.

An interesting plot is carried in the film with the cooperation of the established and upcoming actors that absorbs the viewer and leaves you guessing throughout the movie.

Having to witness the accidental death of a diseased mother and being saved from a consequential suicide attempt, the way to recovery will be difficult and require considerable time.

The unexpected plot twist of The Uninvited is what makes the movie an impressive thrill because it's something that many did not see it coming.

"At Benedictine, I have really found myself, what I want to do and who I want to become."

After transferring from a small, all-women's college, Alexis Nwankwo was worried about fitting in at Benedictine University. She need not have. "At first, I was apprehensive about the change of schools – worrying about the new atmosphere, making new friends, meeting new professors," she said. "However, Benedictine University proved to be a school into which one can easily blend."

Benedictine University also helped Nwankwo find direction academically. "One of the main reasons that I transferred colleges was because my grades were not strong," she said. "As a college freshman, I aspired to be a doctor. However, pre-med is an intense and rigorous track. I lacked passion for science and was therefore not particularly focused. "My first semester at Benedictine was a wonderful experience because I discovered that with sociology I am doing something that I was meant to do," she added. "At Benedictine, I have really found myself, what I want to do and who I want to become. Benedictine University has opened so many doors for me."

Alexis Nwankwo – carrying the light that was passed on to her, and sharing it with others so that they may pass it on to future generations.

Join us on Sunday, March 1, 2009 for the Spring Open House at noon in the Krasa Center.

Carry the Light

Alexis Nwankwo
Junior Sociology major
Oak Park, Illinois
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Friday the 13th remake revisits horror clichés since original

Matt Sheehan
Staff Writer

Prior to the press screening of the remake of *Friday the 13th*, I asked Chicago Film Critics Association president Dann Gire if it would be shown to critics in advance of its release date.

"They didn't screen the original in 1980," he replied. "I had to go to a 1 p.m. matinee on opening day with a 3:30 p.m. deadline. I gave it one-and-a-half stars not knowing it would be the single most influential film of the 1980s. Let's face it, it is."

And so it goes with the latest entry into the fad of horror remakes. The shrieking, sudden music causing you to jump! The promiscuous young folk are slaughtered at will! Phrases like "What are you afraid of?" and "We need to follow him" and "There's something out there" repeated throughout!

Opening with a reintroduction of the original's ending (no spoilers for those accustomed to them) a frisky group of aspiring weed-dealing campers are looking for some alleged marijuana plants growing near an abandoned campground: Camp Crystal Lake.

The once-drowned young boy named Jason Vorhees has now grown up to terrorize anyone who comes near him, including these foolish youths, wearing what appears to be the leftover scraps from Liam Neeson's wardrobe in *Darkman*.

A short time following that incident and the subsequent missing person's reports, a brother of one of those victims, Clay (Jared Padalecki) goes looking for his sibling in the surrounding neighborhoods. Coming through those rural roads as well are (gasp!) another group of randy teenagers, heading for booze and bongs at a secluded cottage next to that particular lake the campground is named after.

After repeated people go missing in the area, wouldn't you choose another relaxing getaway spot?

That aside, these youngsters get high and drunk, save for the innocent and virginal Jenna (Danielle Panabaker). She gives sympathy to and aid for Clay and his search for his sister despite her cocky jock boyfriend Trent (Travis Van Winkle), who is as overprotective as he is faithful.

Eventually, Jason is disturbed, wreaking havoc, blood and mayhem with his trusty machete and a bow-and-arrow (?!?) onto those bothersome, meddling kids.

As with the recent rash of horror remakes, they suffer from either one of two things: Use the clichés that have populated the genre since the original's release (*The Texas Chainsaw Massacre, The Hills Have Eyes*) or hold so step-by-step strictly to the original's plot that, essentially, nothing new is created (*Halloween, Psycho*). The new *Friday the 13th* has the distinct displeasure of having both.

First, the filmmakers chose to use several plot points from the entire Jason series. You've got the last five minutes of the original, a large portion of the second and certain kills and set pieces of the downhill-as-they-keep-coming sequels.

Second, the film loaded with the aforementioned classic critical horror cues that the original helped create (along with a few others, like *A Nightmare on Elm Street* and the original *Halloween*). Even one character/victim proudly proclaims, "Let's be one, big happy cliché!"

When a horror flick shows its cards in its blood-soaked hands, you know a film isn't going to be good

And let's face it, it isn't.

My rating: 1 star out of four

"Friday the 13th" is rated R strong bloody violence, some graphic sexual content, language and drug material

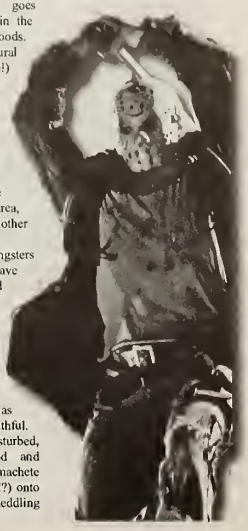


Image courtesy New Line Cinema/ Warner Bros.

Lady Wolves clinch N4C title with win over Rock Valley

Jake Widlowski
Sports Editor

The Lady Wolves basketball team has played very well in the past few weeks. On Saturday Feb. 21, JJC (17-13, 8-2) sealed up the N4C Conference championship with a 78-66 win over Rock Valley College.

As the theme has been throughout the season, the Lady Wolves relied on a complete team effort to grab the win. All nine players scored in the first half to take a convincing 41-25 lead heading into halftime. Martha Benjamin and Tiana Nobles were the top scorers in the first half with eight points apiece.

Rock Valley did not fold easily however, and started with a 17-8 run to begin the second half. JJC did not give up either and would stay ahead with the help of sophomore Terri Warnsley who finished the game with 15 points and 11 rebounds. The Lady Wolves went 9-12 from the free throw line in the second half which also helped to seal the victory.

Five of the Lady Wolves finished in double digits scoring with Benjamin and Christine Wallen scoring 10 apiece, and Nobles added 11. Freshman Megan Kohrt was determined around the basket and added 14 points.

"Martha Benjamin has really picked up her production in scoring and Tiana Nobles is starting to return to the production she gave us early on in the season on the offensive end," said first year head coach Shaun Sanderson.

The game against Rock Valley was sophomore night, and also the last home game of the season for the team. Before the game, all the sophomores were introduced and recognized for the efforts on and off the basketball court.

Next up for the Lady Wolves is the Region IV tournament at the College of DuPage. JJC will begin the tournament on Thursday Feb. 26 and will play again two days later for the regional championship if they win. It is still undetermined who JJC will play in the first round.

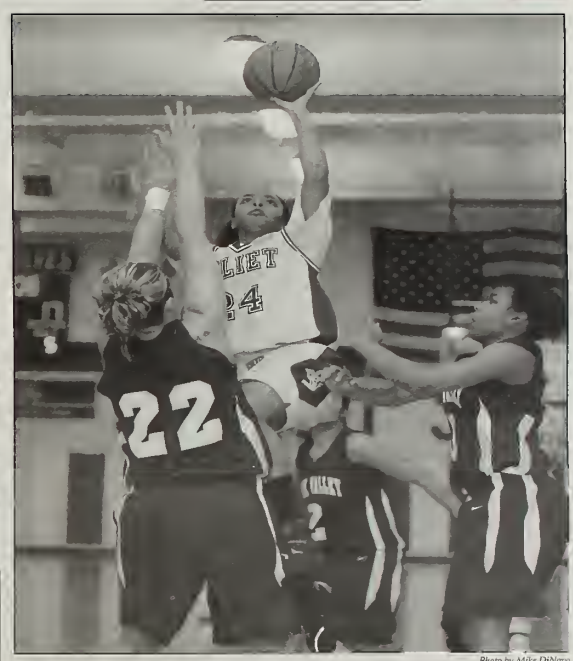


Photo by Mike DiNovo

Guard Britney Edwards puts up a shot in traffic against Rock Valley on Feb. 21.

Photo by Mike DiNovo

Guard Ronelsha Mitchell splits the Rock Valley defenders, looking to score.

Sports Briefs

Wayne King

Joliet Junior College Head Baseball Coach Wayne King received one of his profession's highest honors this week when he was named to the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Baseball Hall of Fame.

King will be inducted with three other colleagues from across the country at the 2009 NJCAA Division I World Series Banquet on May 22 in Grand Junction, Colo.

During his 22 year tenure at JJC, King has established one of the most successful Division III baseball programs in the NJCAA. Under King, JJC has won 12 Region 4 titles and two national championships, including the 2008 World Series title.

King's 762 collegiate career wins are the most in school history at JJC. The 2008 JJC baseball team broke the school record for wins, finishing with a 49-11 overall record, while four players from that team were also selected in the Major League Baseball (MLB) Amateur Draft.

2009 marks King's 23rd year at the helm of the baseball program at JJC. During that time, 90 percent of his student athletes have transferred to four-year schools.

In other career achievements, King has been named an NJCAA and American Baseball Coaches Association (ABCA) Division III Coach of the Year twice, NJCAA District Coach of the Year eight times, and Region 4 Coach of the Year 11 times.

In addition to numerous other achievements, the Pitch and Hit Club of Chicago named King Junior College Coach of the Year three times.

Wolves prepare for Region IV tournament

Jake Widlowski
Sports Editor

In 2008 JJC finished as the national runners-up to a school from Texas. Heading into the season head coach Joe Kuhn and his players were looking to improve on that mark and win the championship this season.

The Wolves are well on their way to another national tournament appearance, and currently stand at 24-6 overall and 8-2 in conference play. JJC is also ranked No. 4 in the nation according to the National Junior College Athletic Association polls.

Regular season play ended on a happy note for the Wolves with a dominating 91-68 win over Rock Valley College. Sophomore Neal Hudson was impressive from three point range and finished the game with 20 points and 6 rebounds. Brandon Redmond had a similar game and scored 19 points with 6 rebounds.

Sophomore Lamar Williams has been somewhat of a role player throughout the season for JJC. He generally does the small things that help the Wolves win ball games, but his effort usually doesn't show largely on score sheets. His small, but essential efforts continued in the game against Rock Valley and finished with 7 points, 6 assists, and 5 rebounds.

"Lamar was outstanding. He distributed the ball, scored and made positive things happen," said Head Coach Joe Kuhn.

The win also snapped a short two game losing streak. During the streak JJC lost to Triton College and South Suburban College by a combined 17 points. Both opponents are ranked in the top ten among Division II Junior College teams."It is difficult playing teams the caliber of Triton and South Suburban in back-to-back games on the road," said Kuhn after the second loss.

JJC will begin the Region IV tournament on Wednesday Feb. 25 at 5 p.m. against either Truman College or Harper College. If the Wolves win, they will move onto the championship game on Saturday Feb. 28 at 7 p.m. The tournament will be held in Glen Ellyn on the campus of the College of DuPage.

Photo by Mike DiNovo

Guard Lamar Williams puts up a shot between two Rock Valley defenders on Feb. 21.

Photo by Mike DiNovo

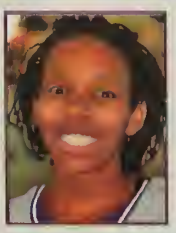
Forward Teray Whisby pulls up for a shot with a hand in his face against Rock Valley.

MALE ATHLETE OF THE ISSUE

BY JAKE WIDLOWSKI

Sophomore Brandon Williams has helped JJC win basketball games this season. He is a solid player that doesn't usually put up big scoring numbers, but his efforts definitely help make the difference between a win or a loss for the Wolves. In a game against Triton College on Feb. 17 Williams finished with 9 points and 10 rebounds despite taking the loss. Four days later JJC bounced back and defeated Rock Valley College. Williams once again made his contributions and scored 14 points and grabbed 8 rebounds in the game.

FEMALE ATHLETE OF THE ISSUE



Sophomore Terri Wamsley has played a large role in the current success of the Lady Wolves basketball team. The Lady Wolves just wrapped up the N4C Conference championship with a win over Rock Valley College. Wamsley had a double- double with 15 points and 11 rebounds in the game. The night marked the last time Wamsley would play at Wills Gymnasium as it was sophomore night and the final game of the regular season. Wamsley was also named the Region IV player of the week in mid February.

Joliet Junior College

BLAZER

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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, 2009 VOLUME 81 ISSUE 8

Photo by Shelley Holmgren

Dr. Roya Falahi-Kharaghani leads her discussion on eco-feminism on March 5 in room J-0006.

ECO-FRIENDLY?

JJC professor Dr. Roya Falahi-Kharaghani disscusses eco-feminism and other gender issues in today's society

Shelley Holmgren
Production Manager

Question: How many of you believe equality should be a factor of life? With all hands raised in the room, this is how Dr. Roya Falahi-Kharaghani introduced the idea of feminism in her presentation of Eco-Feminism on March 5.

Falahi-Kharaghani, a social and behavioral sciences instructor at JJC, explored Eco-Feminism as a part of the Brown Bag presentation series on campus.

She decided to bring this topic to the attention of the college community because she "thought it would be timely because there are a number of misconceptions surrounding feminism as a whole," said Falahi-Kharaghani.

Feminism is defined as an ideology that all people should have equal values and equal rights. Additionally, feminism views patriarchy as a system of male domination, although feminism itself has fallen to the stereotypes of unattractive women who "burn their bras," said Falahi-Kharaghani, when in all actuality, it is not one approach.

Subsidiaries of feminism include liberal feminism, radical feminism, as well as multicultural feminism which subscribes that class, gender, and racial discrimination are contributors to male domination.

Eco-feminism, a new social movement theory, accredits the root cause of environmental problems to patriarchy. According to the beliefs of patriarchy, the males of a family

see ECO page 3

In Repair

A young woman's recovery story from an eating disorder

Shelley Holmgren
Production Manager

Being in recovery for an eating disorder is never an easy task, especially when you decide to share your story with a roomful of strangers. This is exactly what a young woman named "JJ" did.

On Mar. 3, from 12-1 p.m. in J-0006, JJ recounted her story of recovery, from the early causes in her life all the way to finding the strength to get better in her adulthood.

Amy Sims, the holistic wellness coordinator on campus, contacted Linden Oaks two years ago about introducing a program to Joliet Junior College to help students with eating disorders. This issue had come to her attention and she wanted to make a difference.

"I network with a number of community agencies and hospitals to provide the most current wellness information for students," said Sims.

JJ's story of recovery was a part of this effort.

JJ, who was born in South Carolina, grew up with a religious upbringing, something that she attributes to still be an influence in her life. Another residual of JJ's childhood was when she was given the nickname "Skinny Jinny."

This is a nickname that followed her until her college years when she decided to make a lifestyle change to begin exercising and start a healthy lifestyle.

Although JJ notes that being healthy was her original intent, "it became an obsession and it consumed me. It became my identity," she said.

From there, JJ began a rigorous routine of exercising heavily and eating sparingly. At first, friends were very receptive to JJ's reaffirmed attitude, now calling her "Healthy JJ," leaving "Skinny Jinny" to be a whisper of the past. This new persona was unsettling for JJ, leaving her unsure of whom she really was.

This new identity fueled JJ's focus for weight loss even more, to a point where she would avoid social interactions and even began to refuse eating store bought foods.

"I thought the American food industry was out to get me; a bag, a box, a carton," said JJ.

All of which JJ believed was full of preservatives and toxins for her body. In order to control her intake, she began making her own organic food, typically only eating foods that she knew were fresh picked.

"I was controlled by fear of food -- the more I started to see results, the more unsatisfied I became," said JJ.

The turning point in JJ's story is when she and her family took a trip to South Africa in 2006, where her disease became severe. Her fear of not being able to control what she ate in another country caused JJ to bring along a suitcase full

see REPAIR page 3

Parking plans presented at board's special meeting

Jim Sheldon
Co-Editor-In-Chief

Parking options were given at the Joliet Junior College Board of Trustees Buildings and Grounds committee special meeting on March 9.

If the Buildings and Grounds committee approves the options, then the options will be presented to the Board of Trustees for the final approval. The results of the meeting were not available at press time.

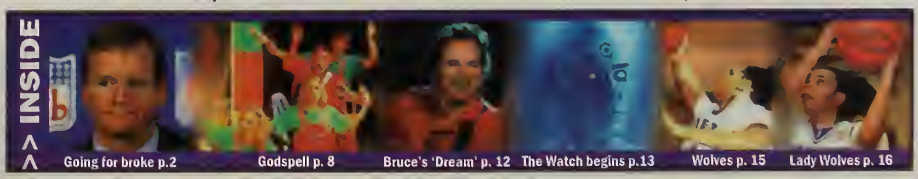
As per the Master Plan, additional parking is one of many student service-based projects that will be financed by the $70 million raised from student fees.

JJC chief of police Pete Comanda and his staff worked with Dave Agazzi, vice president of administrative services, on the parking options. They also used information from a traffic study done by Kenig, Lindgren, Ohara, Aboona, Inc., during the Master Plan steering committee process.

KLOA found out that by 11 a.m., over 82 percent of JJC's 3,200 parking spots were filled. They came up with a few alternatives to increase parking. One was to shrink the parking spaces from 9 feet to an 8 ½ foot space, creating approximately 500 additional parking spaces.

Another plan is to reconfigure the parking lots and make the lines perpendicular from the

see PLANS page 3



Cut in state funding leads to tuition hike

EDITORIAL

Several issues ago, we at the *Blazer* had expressed our opposition to a proposed tuition hike for Joliet Junior College. Soon after, two of us were asked to meet with several of the college's administration to discuss the tuition hike more in depth.

Per this meeting, we would like to expand on some of the information we provided and clarify why the tuition hike is being proposed.

In the Feb. 4 editorial we had noted that according to David Agazzi, the tuition hike would balance the school's budget. This is indeed true according to the administration.

They noted that while enrollment is up by the 9.8 percent that we had discussed, the average cost for the college per student is the same. Thus, they noted that the tuition hike is in response to a cut in state funding.

Funding for JJC can be broken down into three categories: money they receive from local property taxes, money they receive from the state and money they receive from tuition.

Currently, property taxes account for approximately 60 percent of the total funding, tuition accounts for around 22 percent and state funding accounts for the rest, (figures may vary slightly).

The members of the administration noted that over the past few years state funding has decreased while Joliet's notoriously low property taxes have remained relatively the same. Given our former president and governor's view towards education, the decrease in state funding is quite believable.

Having no other options, having been shot down by tax payers in their proposal to raise property taxes, the administration was forced to raise tuition to balance the money lost from a lack of state funding.

However, the administration does note that there are several ways students can cut the cost of tuition, including tapping into the large amount of scholarships and financial aid that go unnoticed by most students on campus.

The administration told us that they would like to make more scholarships available as well as make the ones they already offer better known.

Currently you can find scholarship information at the financial aid office (provided you filled out a FAFSA, otherwise they won't meet with you), a little known scholarship bulletin board on the bridge and via the recent "Things You Need to Know" emails.

Also most clubs and organizations on campus provide scholarships for their members provided you are willing to get involved on campus.

If tuition is a problem for you like it is for some of us at the *Blazer*, then we have but two suggestions: 1. Take advantage of the free money JJC has to offer and 2. Urge your parents to agree to increase the insanely low property taxes as the increase only helps what you or your parents have to pay for tuition.

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Going for broke

Celebrities and athletes should take page out of Goodell's playbook

Jim Sheldon
Co-Editor-In-Chief

COMMENTARY

While unemployment soars (650,000 jobs lost in February alone), stock prices plummet (lowest in a dozen years) and many of us bookmark monster.com, Manny Ramirez finally signed his contract with the Los Angeles Dodgers, two years, $45 million.

Ramirez had previously rejected a one year, $25 million contract with a $20 million player option for 2010. On Espn.com last week, they featured a Salary Cruncher where you could compare your yearly income to the likes of Manny Ramirez, CC Sabathia and Alex Rodriguez.

If your yearly income is $75,000, you would need to work 300 years to make Ramirez's annual salary (Ramirez would need just two at-bats to make yours).

If that doesn't make your eyes pop out of their sockets then it's probably because your outrage is still focused on Octomom.

Or perhaps what angers you is the way Connecticut men's basketball coach Jim Calhoun so swiftly and arrogantly dismissed a question, Feb. 21, about whether he would receive a pay cut ("not a dime back") when the state is facing massive deficits.

Or perhaps it's the $20 million contract offer that quarterback Kurt Warner felt was too inadequate for returning to the Cardinals (Warner signed a two year, $23 million dollar deal Mar. 4).

Or maybe you're like me and you're angered by all of the above. I'm a huge sports fan but the salaries that professional athletes make are absolutely ludicrous. They're being paid millions of dollars a year to throw a football, make a basket or hit a baseball? Something's not right here.

> However, in these times of economic turmoil, it's refreshing to see that one man has his heart in the right place, NFL commissioner Roger Goodell.

And it's not just professional athletes either; actors and actresses make insane amounts of money as well. Johnny Depp is reportedly getting $56 million for the fourth Pirates of the Caribbean film which is the most for a single film breaking the record held by Tom Hanks ($51 million for *The Da Vinci Code*).

Angelina Jolie, the highest paid actress, rakes in around $15 million a film. She and Brad Pitt donate a lot of money to charity though, so I won't pick on her too much.

Charlie Sheen is TV's highest paid actor, making roughly $825, 000 per episode for his work on *Two and a Half Men*. Sheen makes roughly $18 million per year.

However, in these times of economic turmoil, it's refreshing to see that one man has his heart in the right place, NFL commissioner Roger Goodell.

Goodell voluntarily accepted a 20 percent pay cut from the $11 million he was to receive in the 2008 fiscal year, which ends Mar. 31. This comes on the heels of the NFL laying off 169 corporate workers, about 15 percent of their total workforce.

Goodell and other league execs are freezing their salaries for 2009.

I'm proposing that actors, actresses and professional athletes who make over $3 million take a 20 percent pay cut like Goodell did and contribute the money to the national debt, which stands at around $11 trillion.

And those who make over $100 million should take a 30 percent pay cut including Oprah Winfrey whose income in 2008 was an astronomical $275 million!

I know that this has a snowball's chance in hell of happening, but hey I can dream right?

The Pop Culture Commentary with Shelley Holmgren

Get it on ebaMa®

President Obama has become more than the 44th president -- he's become a trademark

First and foremost, I want to make it explicitly clear that I am supporter of Barack Obama. On Election Day, I don't believe I have ever watched more C-SPAN in my life.

I cried during the inauguration, no joke, but what is a joke is that our commander-in-chief has become more than a political leader. He has become a consumer product.

Everywhere from t-shirts, to tote bags, to even sneakers, most likely if you want something with Obama's face on it, chances are, you are going to be able to find it. With any political campaign, it is routine to support your chosen candidate with bumper stickers, pins, and even sporting their face on a shirt in more popular occasions.

It may just be me (doubtful), but it seems like the people of this country are more concerned about collecting Obama memorabilia than betting their Obama card set that the stimulus will do some good.

Even big-name designers are hopping on the Obama money-train. From Sean "Diddy" Combs, to other up and comers like Derek Lam, Alexander Wang, and even Diane von Furstenburg, all have designed pieces in their collection for the "change."

To put this consumer carnage in perspective, let's crunch the numbers. According to the *New York Times*, in November of 2008, over $200 million in Obama merchandise had been sold. Please note, this was last November, so just imagine how astronomical that number has become.

The most ridiculous of all the Obama products is the existence of… the Obama-Bar. Yes, I assure you, there is an actual soap bar endorsing Barack. And just think, for the low price of $9.99 you too can lather up with… the president? I'm sorry; someone has to draw the line with hygiene products for publicity.

Barack Obama's election is a historical moment that will be forever a part of history. However, let's not have history remember it for the fine line of president-endorsed dental products it produced, hm?

REPAIR cont.

of granola bars to tide her hunger over. However, during the trip, JJ realized that she couldn't control her hunger any longer, so she began binging and purging,

"It was a sense of freedom, like getting a high," she said.

JJ's true road to recovery began when she became a resident at Arabella House, a group home at Linden Oaks in Naperville, Ill.

"At Arabella House, there is an understanding that we are all individuals," she said.

Arabella House is a residential care home for females 16 and older who are recovering from an eating disorder and are shifting back to their normal routines. Arabella House is also the only center of residential care for those suffering from eating disorders in Illinois.

At Arabella House, JJ discovered a passion for something else alongside her recovery -- music. Playing guitar became a healthy resource for JJ and her recovery, and it was something that she showcased Mar. 21 of last year during a candlelight vigil bosted by Linden Oaks.

During the event, JJ performed a song that she wrote, noting the experience as a defining moment in her life because it instilled hope inside her; "For the first time I thought, I'm going to live because I want to, because I deserve to," she said.

Ally Warf, a Psychology major, said she enjoyed the presentation, especially JJ's story.

"I thought it was really nice to have someone who has experienced the things I am learning about," said Ward. "Those with eating disorders are difficult to work with -- they need someone to understand and Linden Oaks is a great source for that."

Warf also recommends those who want to learn more about eating disorders read *The Secret Language of Eating Disorders* by Peggy Claude-Pierre.

Bev Watson, a registered nurse and clinical leader of Arabella House, explained the causes and risk factors of eating disorders during the presentation.

Watson noted that in JJ's case, "there was not one thing that caused her eating disorder -- it was a multitude of things and that is typically the case."

One of the reasons Watson attributed to the eating disorder epidemic in our country is culture itself and how the pressure to be beautiful will push even the most rational of people to the extreme limits.

"All we see on TV, or in advertisements, is how to make our body better," said Watson. "We have to perfect now to be happy -- such a lie."

Watson also attributes a cause for the early stages of this disease to parents mirroring self-image assessments on their children.

"These days, [parents are] not focusing on the personality or the kindness of their child," said Watson. "They are only focused on looks."

For further information about eating disorders, go to edrefferral.org to find a treatment program as well as Linden Oaks, who offer free consultations.

Watson notes that although it is important to encourage people suffering from an eating disorder to treatment, it also has to be a decision they make themselves.

"The most important part about recovery is motivation -- you have to want to make the change," said Watson.

PLANS cont.

buildings to the street.

"This will create longer rows, with less space and less lines," said Comanda.

If the plans are approved, the parking lots will likely be reconfigured over the summer when traffic is minimal at main campus. The work will be chosen through a bid process.

"We're also looking to pave the grassy area at the back of the J-parking lot and once the student center is built, the green temporary buildings will be torn down and replaced by parking lots," said Comanda.

Comanda also said that there is talk about making a parking lot east of the existing faculty lot, but that is just in the discussion stages at the moment.

Approximately 1,610 new spaces would be created if the plan is approved by the Board of Trustees.

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ECO cont.

unit are the primary bread winners of the family, whereas females play the role of caregivers, a speculative belief.

"[Females] have no maternal gene," said Falahi-Kharaghani. "There is no clinical research that women are better caregivers."

Feminist sociology explores that only men of power make the significance in a social structure.

"All of us have to pay a cost for sexism," said Falahi-Kharaghani. "Men have to pay a physical cost and women have to pay a financial cost."

In discussing Eco-Feminism, key resources are dominated much like females are dominated in society by males, according to Falahi-Kharaghani. This is especially evident in third-world countries like Darfur, where women are exploited as frequently as the land is mistreated. Eco-feminism sanctions industrialization as a prominent reason for land abuse.

"The more industrialized we become the farther we become from our food source and its manufacturing," said Falahi-Kharaghani.

This idea of an infusion of artificial resources is mirrored in all aspects of life. In Western society, tan bodies are idealized, achieved by unecological methods like tanning beds and dangerous skin accelerators.

Furthermore, the feminine product industry grosses over $60 million dollars annually, although most of the products being endorsed are harmful to its mass consumers. These unnecessary products further the idea that not only is the environment being exploited in the manufacturing of these products, but women are oppressed as well -- the embodiment of Eco-feminism.

This influence is also mirrored in cultural linguistics. In popular society, woman's bodies are most commonly referred to as pieces of meat.

Oppression of women and land is mirrored when the abuse of resources is referred to as a "rape of the land," according to Falahi-Kharaghani.

Kirsten Maska, an anthropology major, was in attendance for the presentation and walked away with a better perspective of eco-feminism.

"A lot of the ideas of feminism were new, but some were familiar as Dr. Falahi uses that knowledge in her classes. It's a culmination of these ideas that I study in my major," she said.

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News Briefs

Wordeoter issue #119 and the Foll 2008 E-Zine were o HUGE success. There were nearly 40 JJC student, olumni, foculty & staff contributors of quality art and literature. If you haven't seen the latest issue or e-zine, check aut www.wardeoter.org.

Now it's time to get inspired again! Wordeoter is publishing a print issue and e-zine in eorly May and is seeking contributors.

If you have written wark, art & photagraphy, music, recordings, short films, ond/or multimedio creations ta submit, email them to www.wardeater.org by March 14th.

On Facebook? Jain the graup Wordeater: http://www.facebook.com/home.php?#/graup.php?gid=4953987506

The Knights of Calumbus will serve spoghetti ond ravioli on Saturdoy, March 21, fram 4:30 ta 7 p.m., in the St. Lowrence Parish Holl, 2nd Avenue and Lemant Street in South Wilmington.

The all-yau-care-ta-eat dinner will include spoghetti with tomata sauce, meotballs, homemade ravioli, o salad bar, garlic ond/or cheese breod, dessert and caffee or lemonade.

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Hypnotist Frederick Winters puts JJC students in a trance

Shawn Faust
Co-Editor-In-Chief

Students crossing the bridge Mar. 4 may have found themselves mesmerized by returning hypnotist, comedian and performance artist, Frederick Winters.

In front of a large crowd of students, Winters took several volunteers to be hypnotized in front of their peers. After putting the volunteers into a trance-like state with the help of soothing music and voice direction, Winters convinced his volunteers to perform certain actions in front of the crowd, ranging from dancing to taking off their shoes.

Winters also influenced several of his volunteers into believing that they had an animal on their lap and asked them to describe them to the crowd with very humorous results.

He also convinced one of his male volunteers that his shirt was inside out causing the student to change his shirt in front of the crowd.

"When a hypnotist hypnotizes an individual, he is altering that person's state of consciousness," said Winters. "When the mind relaxes, focusing only on the hypnotist's voice, the subconscious mind becomes more alert while the conscious mind becomes more subdued."

He also notes that the subconscious mind is less reasonable and more open to suggestion and thus when the subconscious mind is put into a state where it is in control "a hypnotist on stage can achieve genuine responses from his subjects- even from irrational suggestions."

> "Vaughn taught me a great deal about hypnosis and performing it, too. I'm truly indebted to him."
> - Frederick Winters

Student Wong Feng, one of the volunteers who asked to be on stage, verifies that this is true.

"He puts you in a state where you know what you're doing but you don't care," said Feng.

Winters became interested in hypnosis after meeting a performing hypnotist named George Vaughn Lowther while in college at Northwestern University in Chicago.

"Vaughn taught me a great deal about hypnosis and performing it too. I'm truly indebted to him," said Winters.

Soon after, Winters started performing at local parties and after becoming certified in hypnotherapy he partnered up with his agents Scott Bass and Chris Schuler (Bass/Schuler Entertainment) in 1990 and has since been performing at colleges nationwide.

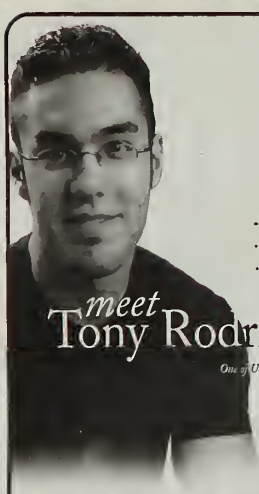
Since then, Winters has hypnotized over 125,000 people at more than 2,000 shows. He has been nominated nearly ten times for "Campus Entertainer of the Year" making him one of the top five campus acts in the country.

While Winters is an accomplished hypnotherapist, he enjoys the challenge of performing on college campuses much more than he does his clinical work.

"You'll detect from the moment I walk on stage that there is no place I would rather be," said Winters.

If you enjoyed his performance, wish to check him out, or want to buy his hypnotherapy CD's, he can be reached at his website: frederickwinters.com.

The Blazer welcomes participation by our readers. Letters should be 300 words or fewer and we reserve the right to edit for content. You may send your letter through inter-office mail, postal mail, by email, or by dropping off at the Blazer office in F-1009.



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Ashley Greuel

10 GREAT REASONS TO TRANSFER TO ELMHURST

1 "An Elmhurst internship is an incredible experience. I did an internship in the nonprofit sector, and I wouldn't trade it for anything," says Ashley Greuel. "I learned first-hand about fund-raising and coordinating volunteers."

2 As a transfer student, you're just one of us. About one in three of our students comes to us with experience at another college or university. We understand your academic needs.

3 The transfer process is easy and personal. Our admission counselors will advise you on the course credits you'll need to make your transition to Elmhurst simple.

4 You can afford a great college education. And we'll help! Last year, we offered more than 300 scholarships to transfer students. More than 86 percent of our students receive financial aid.

5 The college guides have spoken: Elmhurst is among the best in the Midwest. We're "top tier" in *U.S. News* and *The Princeton Review* calls Elmhurst "a small college with a big bang."

6 Elmhurst looks like a college ought to look. The campus is an arboretum with trees from around the world. It covers 38 acres and has 25 buildings, each designed to support your academic and personal development.

7 You'll have your choice of more than 50 majors. Whether you know what your major will be or you're still exploring the possibilities, we'll provide you with an ideal environment to plan your future.

8 In over 100 student organizations, you'll get your chance to lead. Transfer students routinely hold top positions in our Student Government Association, award-winning student newspaper, and throughout campus life.

9 "It's like a big family. From the moment I set foot on campus, I felt welcomed," says Kimberly Widmer. "This is the kind of college where you get to experience lots of love, laughter, and challenges."

10 An Elmhurst education is intensely practical. Each of our majors offers both cutting-edge theory and plenty of opportunities to practice how the theory actually works in the real world through great internships and more.

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Elmhurst College

As I visited Chicago Botanical Garden last weekend with a friend, I realized how much I am going to miss being in the Midwest, kind of.

The iris were two inches above the soil line giving signs of spring and teasing us in the freezing cold where we would have given our left leg to be observing cacti in Arizona.

The winter weather makes spring that much better when snowdrops and crocus emerge from the ground and viburnums are beginning their bloom periods.

I will not be here for the spectacle. I will not be in a warmer place by any means rather, in Massachusetts. An internship opportunity opened up for me there and I have chosen to jump on it.

New England Wildflower Society is the main supplier of native flora of North America and leads many conservation projects as well. I will be a part of propagating these plants and participating in research of damaged or restored lands.

The headquarters for the organization is called Garden in the Woods in Framingham, Massachusetts (I still do not know where it is).

Although, I had two other offers, one in the east coast and one in Colorado, I found NEWFS had a vision I connected with best.

This displays that every garden, organization and literary source has a different vision and finding the one that fits you best is part of the journey. Will specializing in native plants and alpine flora make one famous-probably not, but if it's what you enjoy most then go for it!

So just ask yourself next time you run into a nursery or garden center, what kind of plants are you buying? What kinds of plants do you like most? And go with it! Gardening may just become that much more gratifying to yourself that way and after all, who else would you do it for?

Check out the New England Wildflower Society at newenglandwild.org.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Alex Vasiliades

Alex Vasiliades

Kelsie Lofdahl
Staff Writer

Joliet West High School Graduate of 2008, Alex Vasiliades, enrolled in Joliet Junior College last fall semester. Graduating with a 3.8 G.P.A., Vasiliades was in the top 20 percent of his class.

He was highly involved with his high school clubs, activities and multiple honors organizations.

He was involved in "No Name" which is a Drug and Violence Prevention Club, two activities which were Concert Choir and two musicals, *Narnia* and *Too Many Sopranos*, and three honors organizations which were National Honor Society, Music Honor Society (Tri-M), and History Honor Society (Pi Sigma Pi).

Leaving high school behind him, Vasiliades attends JJC with the same goals of being highly involved, but an additional goal of achieving an Associates Arts Degree.

"It's important to get involved because when you get involved it makes a great transition into college life," said Vasiliades.

He believes that being involved is an important way to learn more about the college you attend and make new friends with people you meet every day.

Currently, Vasiliades is the Public Relations Officer of Student Government, a student worker for Office of Student Activities, a wish granter for the Make a Wish Foundation, was rotary student of the month in December and was inducted into Phi Theta Kappa.

"JJC offers me an excellent education with the benefits of being close to home and being financially reasonable. It's a great community and beautiful campus," said Vasiliades.

He also likes the diverse groups and organizations JJC offers, the small classroom sizes and the close knit relationship with the various faculty and staff.

Striving to accomplish his A.A. degree, Vasiliades is double majoring in Communications and Marketing. With the plan to graduate fall of 2009, Vasiliades will then transfer to De Paul University.

Looking forward to transferring to a university, Vasiliades believes De Paul is an excellent school for his majors and offers him opportunities through their programs and internships.

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Story and photos by Katherine Boehle

From Feb. 26 through Mar. 1, *Godspell*, the theatre department's annual musical, was sold out. The musical was directed by JJC faculty member and theatre manager, Nicki Blowers and technical direction was done by Terry Hoffman.

Godspell was written in 1970 by John-Michael Tebelak with music and lyrics by Stephen Schwartz. The musical first appeared off-Broadway on May 17, 1971. A movie version of *Godspell* shortly came out in 1973 with actor, Victor Garbor, as Jesus.

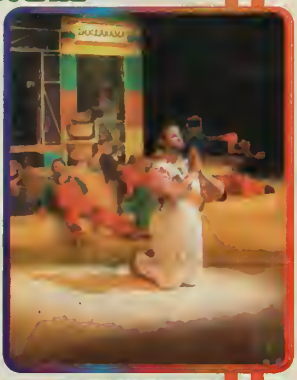
Godspell, based on the Gospel according to Matthew, is a fun musical where actors perform parables of Jesus. The show also included the hit *Day by Day*, performed by Jimmy Jagos, as Jesus, Mark Weitting, as John the Baptist/ Judas and 12 other JJC students performing the ensemble.

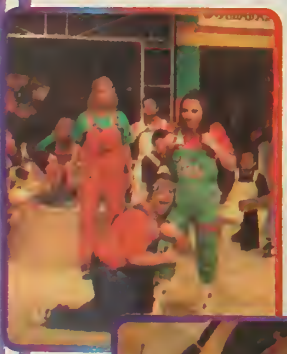
Jagos, has appeared in other JJC productions such as Bud Frump in *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying* (winning Best Actor 2008), Barnard in *Fortinbros*, and Linday in Mome.

Wietting has been in a long list of JJC productions as well. A few to name that he has done recently include Toomey in *Biloxi Blues*, Mr. Tackaberry/Quartet in *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying* (winning Best Cameo Actor 2008), Hamlet in *Fortinbros*, Will in *Busy Stop*, Hugo in *Bye Bye Birdie* (winning Best Supporting Actor 2006), and Bennie in *Getting Out*.

Part of the *Godspell* ensemble featured JJC debut actors such as Aaron Bentz, Aaron Curry, Stephanie Klimowych, David Laurich, Conner Meinhart, Meghan Smith, Christine Ververka, and Chris Walusek.

The rest of the ensemble included returning JJC actors such as Tori Buckley, who appeared in *Biloxi Blues* as Daisy, Megan Caccamo who appeared as Clelia in *The Nerd*, Tony Panepinto who appeared in *Mome* and Elenor Lape who received best supporting actress as Hedy LaRue in *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*.





PAINT THE TOWN

Photos by Katherine Boehle & Kaila Rivera

From March 2 to March 27, mixed media artist Pedro J. Palacios will be exhibiting his "Angeles de la Guardia" collection - the various pieces are mixed media assemblages composed of wood, ceramics and computer-generated images focusing on the subjects of childhood, immigration and religion. To see these pieces, as well as the entire collection, visit the Laura A. Sprague Art Gallery on the second floor of J-Building.

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what moves you

Your Health:

Breakthrough in stem cell research

Kat Kozlowski
Production Manager

Stem cell research is having a great start for the month of March. On Mar. 1, researchers at the universities of Edinburgh and Toronto announced that they have found a new technique to producing stem cells without the use of human embryos by transforming skin cells into powerful stem cells.

Almost every single day since this announcement was made there have been further updates and announcements on breakthroughs in stem cell research.

As many may not know, stem cells are the producers of the body's tissues and organs. The reason that stem cells were originally used from embryos was due to the potential of the cells to create any tissue needed.

The use of regular skin cells though was a risky task originally, because to use skin cells scientists had to use viruses that add their own genetic material into the cells they infect, which led to a heightened risk of cancer.

Luckily researchers have found an answer that would fix this issue by creating induced pluripotent stem cells or iPS cells.

These cells are at the same level of functioning as embryonic cells; however, they allow the opportunity to inject additional genes that trigger the removal of the cell's reprogramming after the change in the cell has been made with the use of skin cells throughout the entire process.

Currently researchers have found that by using iPS cells there is an avoidance of the aforementioned risk of cancer.

Instead of injecting the viruses that contained genes into the cells, iPS cells are created by a process called electroporation that allows the genes to be ferried into cells through the pores of the cell. This would allow the scientists to remove the genes from the cells when they were finished doing their job leaving behind an unaffected cell.

Also because the cells are made from the patient's skin, the DNA of the potentially created organs and tissues would be recognized by the body and not be rejected by the immune system increasing the chances of survival in patients receiving such treatments.

This process hasn't completely eliminated the use of embryonic stem cells just yet, but researchers hope to eventually reach that point with the use of the iPS cells.

"It is a step toward the practical use of reprogrammed cells in medicine, perhaps even eliminating the need for human embryos as a source of stem cells," said Keisuke Kaji from the Medical Research Council Center for Regenerative Medicine in Edinburgh, UK.

This comes as good news to pro-life organizations, especially since they have been fighting the use of embryos for stem cell research.

And with President Obama preparing to reverse the limitations on funding for stem cell research that were created by former President Bush, there is potential for everyone in the U.S. to benefit from the reversal and to also benefit from the news of the potential of eliminating the use of embryonic cells.

The Pillars of Fitness: Improving arm size

RJ Loebe
Staff Writer

If you asked the majority of men which body part they would like to look the best, their answer likely would be their arms.

Every man would like to have big arms, a huge chest and gigantic shoulders. They are the most noticeable features on the body. I'm going to go in-depth on working on your arms. A lot of misinformed people assume that in order to grow big biceps and triceps, you must train repeatedly.

This is false and rather it is the opposite. In order to really improve arm size, you must zero on a "less is more" philosophy. You do not have to be in the gym three hours blasting curls to get big biceps.

> You do not have to be in the gym three hours blasting curls to get big biceps. As a matter of fact, if anything you are overtraining, making your body react negatively to the abuse it receives during a workout.

As a matter of fact, if anything you are overtraining, making your body react negatively to the abuse it receives during a workout. It will be to the point where instead of making any gains, you are further inhibiting yourself from pushing yourself to maximum fatigue.

One of the main things when training your biceps, besides sets of 3-4 per exercise, is strict form. There is no point in throwing around the 50 lbs. dumbbells for a set of 10 if you are throwing the weight with your shoulders, arms and back. That is not isolating your muscle, instead it's working your whole body.

Strict form includes full extension motion. For instance, the best bicep movement is the barbell curl. Simply put, you pick up a bar and bring it to your chest as a curl. With strict form this can really improve your biceps size and "peak" more than any other exercise.

Recommended overall sets for the biceps is 8-10. Considering it is such a small muscle, there is no point to a lot of sets. The triceps muscle is the same thing, a small muscle that doesn't require that much training.

If anything it might need a few more sets than the bicep. We all would like the horseshoe V look you can attain if you work your triceps the correct way. You can obtain this and work your chest at the same time.

During bench press, you are using your triceps as a secondary movement. Therefore it already is getting a lot of work. It is recommended to isolate the triceps on a few exercises such as close grip bench press- bring grip much closer than during regular bench press.

Place your index finger on the indention on the bar in order to give yourself an idea of where your fingers should be.

Recommended sets can vary from 12-15, depending if you are doing your triceps on chest day, or if you are working them alone on "Arms Day!"

Overall, the arm doesn't need a lot of work or a lot of information dedicated to it. As long as your diet is good and you are using the correct form, your arm will grow just as fast as the rest of your body will. Next up is the chest!

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This book doesn't 'fade' into the background

Katherine Boehle
Staff Writer

New York Times bestselling author, Lisa McMann, came out with her first book, *Wake*, a paranormal teen novel in March of 2008. It became an instant success and soon made it onto the *New York Times* bestsellers list. McMann started touring with another popular teen novelist, Cassandra Claire.

Then on Feb. 10, the second book to the series, *Fade*, hit bookshelves for eagerly awaiting fans, like myself.

I actually got into the *Wake* trilogy because I heard that a new paranormal teen novelist was coming to the local *Borders* for a signing of her new book and I figured that I would support the author by coming to the signing. I bought the book and finished it the next day, instantly hooked to the series.

In the first book, *Wake*, we follow Janie, who's a regular 17-year-old high school senior who has the power – or more the curse – of getting sucked into other people's dreams. Worse yet, she can't control it.

Throughout the book we follow Janie through her adventures in the dreams of other people, school and of course, love.

In *Fade*, the second chapter to this trilogy, Janie and her boyfriend Cabel are having trouble getting on with their relationship. Odd things are also happening at the high school, and when Janie falls into a fellow-student's dream, the rumors turn out to be true. Plus, Janie starts uncovering the truth of her ability and the fate that she has no choice but to fall into.

Fade has met my expectations and more. It is a wonderful addition to the trilogy that I would actually consider better than the first. It had a more engaging plot and was a much more suspenseful novel that had me close to the edge of my seat at some points.

Not only was it more suspenseful, but just like any other girl, I'm a sucker for romance, and *Fade* was indeed more romantic than *Wake*, and I am more in love with Cabel than ever.

> Fade has met my expectations and more. It is a wonderful addition to the trilogy that I would actually consider better than the first.

My *only* complaint that I have for this trilogy so far is the realism of it. I mean, obviously it's a paranormal trilogy and all, so that's why I'm going to cut it some slack. The author makes it seem as though dreams uncover so many secrets of someone's personal life.

Sometimes even the heroine falls into the same dream over and over again from the same person – come on, even people who have "reoccurring dreams" are bound to have a different dream at some point.

However, since the book is indeed paranormal, and obviously escapes from realism in other ways, I'm just going to take it as a part of the author's imagination and a valuable part of the plot. After all, what would be the point of falling into other people's dreams if it didn't mean something?

The author to this book, I have to say is really quite awesome. Having met her myself, I can say that she really is a great person with an awesome imagination. Being sucked into other people's dreams, I must say, is really original.

But the way it's written is also very original. Instead, of your average Chapter 1, Chapter 2, etc., she splits up the book by time. Like, 2:46pm, 6:34pm, etc, which makes the book rather refreshing.

Therefore, I must say that this is a trilogy that is definitely worth reading, and if you can make it to any of the author's book signings, don't miss out, she's definitely an author worth meeting, and I will be impatiently waiting for February of 2010 for *Gone*, the closing book to this trilogy.

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Springsteen 'works' new sound on album

RJ Loebe
Staff Writer

Bruce Springsteen's 16th studio album, *Working On a Dream*, is full of surprises, strings, turnabouts and a new sound that left many fans (including myself) wondering where this new sound came from. It's raw, new, optimistic and fun; it's Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band.

Detailing a career such as Springsteen's would be hard to sum up in a short album review of his latest songs. But I believe most of us have heard and understood what Bruce was singing about with his high flying *Born to Run*.

In his new album Bruce takes a different approach. It's not a young man speaking of the open road and the endless possibilities in which he has before him. It's an album of a man who found promise in a forthcoming change which he believes will constitute in a better country, as some of the songs bring a light to the Obama administration.

Although with the optimistic approach to Bruce's new album, this was the last record in which Danny Federci, longtime original member of the E-Street band, was able to perform on. He unfortunately passed away Apr. 17.

> This album is very different from the usual sound of Springsteen, yet worked perfectly with what he can do.

Springsteen starts us off on an 8 minute western epic which left me making sure I had the right CD in my truck. It had strings, a western-style harmonica and an interesting kick. "Outlaw Pete" started off the album with one heck of a guitar enriched solo in which some critics have compared to his earlier, much heralded songs off the *Born to Run* album, and I can't disagree. It's an excellent way to start off an album.

Over the course of the album we learn of Bruce's feeling of luck and happiness in the upbeat, guitar slamming 80s style "Lucky Day." A song I couldn't help but sing-along to. This song will go down as one of the best off this album and I'm sure will be played on a lot of radio stations. Who knew a 59-year-old man could make such a hit as this and appeal to the younger crowd, which I believe this song will do. It's got a cool violin, an awesome guitar riff in the background and a fun piano piece.

The middle of the album also has some very interesting pieces of work. Springsteen was quoted as saying he was going for a more "poppier" sound. It's been noted he was influenced for this album from the works of Roy Orbison and Phil Spector.

And it is clearly heard. The album has a variety of different sounds but throughout the album I can hear the Phil Specter 60's sound to it, not to mention the unmistakable Beach Boys type track labeled "This Life." I thought I was hearing something out of Pet Sounds or another Beach Boys album.

"Tomorrow Never Knows" left me making sure I wasn't listening to Bob Dylan playing as a guest on the album. Springsteen shows his unmistakable early-acoustic guitar work on which he was labeled as the next Bob Dylan. One of the strongest songs of the album, it had Highway 61 Revisited all over it.

The last two songs I felt were the best and most powerful off the whole album. "The Last Carnival" is a solo-acoustic performance by Springsteen in which the song is dedicated to fellow founding member, Danny Federici. It's a heartfelt song teeming with metaphors describing how Bruce and the band must go on without Danny, as the show continues.

"The Wrestler" is a bonus track and was written for the movie *The Wrestler* starring Mickey Rourke. The song includes Springsteen strumming his acoustic guitar accompanied by a light piano played in the beginning, going into a spectacular, emotional sounding song that left me speechless at the end.

It not only fits well for the movie (which got snubbed at the Oscars) but also is a perfect ending to the record. This isn't "Secret Garden" set for Jerry Maguire. This song has such a strong emotional appeal I'm not surprised it received a Golden Globe.

This album is very different from the usual sound of Springsteen, yet worked perfectly with what he can do. His variety and range of music is once again shown throughout this album. It takes a much heralded artist like Springsteen to be able to have such a wide range of music, still appeal to their fan base, and receive solid reviews(Rolling Stone gave this album 5 stars). Overall I give this album 4.5 out of 5.

WHO WATCHES THE WATCHMEN?

Matt Sheehan
Staff Writer

The difficulty with making film versions of popular and, sometimes, acclaimed comic books and graphic novels is adhering to the source material and remain as faithful as possible, in terms of visual, tone and the written word.

Comic book scribe and *Watchmen* co-creator Alan Moore has been quoted as saying he refuses to watch any film version of his much-heralded 12-issue comic series from 1986-87, believing it was not filmable, telling *Entertainment Weekly* in 2005, "My book is a comic book. Not a movie."

Moore may be able to have his cake and eat it, too.

Zack Snyder's near-exact adaptation of the (now-referred-to-as) graphic novel, looks and sounds like the only comic notch in *Time Magazine's* list of the 100 greatest novels of the 20th century (that includes Mark Twain and Hemingway, no less). However, it may be a bit too anti-cinematic like Moore has claimed his precious is.

It's an alternate 1985. Richard Nixon is in his third term as president. The threat of nuclear war endures against the Soviet Union, despite the U.S. being victorious in Vietnam, all thanks to the existence of superheroes in society.

However, these masked vigilantes have been outlawed. Following a brutal fight set against Nat King Cole's "Unforgettable," one of those former heroes, The Comedian (Jeffrey Dean Morgan) has just been murdered, thrown from his high-rise apartment, leaving a blood-streaked smiley-faced button behind (the symbol most identified with *Watchmen*).

One masked man, Rorschach (Jackie Earle Haley), a growling man of trench coat, hat and constantly-changing ink blot face, begins to investigate the murder as something more than just simple. Warning his fellow, former crimefighters: aging, overweight Dan Dreiberg aka Nite Owl (Patrick Wilson); blue, detached, nonhuman—and very naked—Dr. Manhattan (Billy Crudup); Manhattan's frustrated very human lover Laurie Juspeczyk aka Silk Spectre (Malin Akerman); and enterprising albeit narcissistic businessman Adrian Veidt aka Ozymandias (Matthew Goode).

None of them believe Rorschach's theory: a conspiracy to eliminate the masked do-gooders as the threat of nuclear annihilation nears.

That is, no one takes grasps of that until Dr. Manhattan is portrayed as (literally) cancerous and is forced into exile on Mars and Rorschach is framed for the murder of an archenemy of the Comedian's and imprisoned. Laurie is left emotionally vulnerable (her wardrobe mirroring that) upon Manhattan's exit while Dan is her shoulder to cry on.

> Without o doubt, Haley's portroyol os Rorschach is rich and energetic, injecting the film with its true vigilonte.

Soon, all these disbanded and disgruntled former co-workers must somehow find a way to co-exist among their busy, messed up lives to uncover the conspiracy.

And those lives really illuminate Snyder's film here: busy. At 162 minutes, there is a lot to cover. In fact, so much is cut from the comic that vast parts of characters' pasts and psychology are absent. Therein lies the chief criticism: the graphic novel has much emotionality and some of that deep, layered psychology of the people, places and things are lost.

Still, the film is admirably faithful in look and words, but not fully in spirit. And it's not all Snyder's fault.

I found the first third of the novel to lumber about. It wasn't until the mid-section that I became engrossed with the story and the backgrounds of all these masked—and glowing—individuals. Additionally, the story and its structure is an immense social criticism on an abundance of topics: the power of the media and the ramifications its influence has over others; liberal vs. conservative views on causes of and solutions to criminality; and stereotypes and generalizations of the comic book medium—these are among many.

As previously mentioned, these psyches are slimmed down for the film. For example, Laurie's background of forced heroism by her mother, the original Silk Spectre, Sally Jupiter (an underutilized Carla Gugino).

Now, the actors' performances range from great to mediocre to bad.

Without a doubt, Haley's portrayal as Rorschach is rich and energetic, injecting the film with its true vigilante. Seeing his real face for only a short time doesn't mean his performance is lacking. Like Charlie Chaplin, Haley uses his slim body and the wardrobe hugging to do a lot of the talking. Except Haley does get to talk, a la "Gran Torino." Mask on or not, Haley is the brightest (or darkest, in a sense?) spot of the entire film, translating the character from page to screen perfectly.

And the special effects look very slick, possibly Oscar-worthy, based on the work of Dr. Manhattan alone.

Goode, Wilson and Morgan are nothing exceptional. Only Morgan excels above the rest in look and feeling. Goode, so fantastic in 2007's underrated *The Lookout*, speaks with a hint of elitism and a dash of aristocratic English while unsmiling in scenes. Wilson's job of putting on a little weight and wearing middle-aged specs from the early 1980s is easy, but Wilson puts some feeling into an otherwise mediocre character.

It looks good, two performances shine (despite the imbalance of less-than-stellar ones) and the visuals are amazing. But Snyder faults on playing this too close to the chest, trying too hard to keep fanboys ecstatic while alienating those unfamiliar with the comic.

It's damn good, an imperfect gem with issues, like its characters.

Who watches 'Watchmen'?

I do.

But Moore still won't.

***My rating:** 3-and-a-half stars out of four. Watchmen is rated R for strong graphic violence, sexuality, nudity and language.*

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Baseball 2009 Spring preview

Jake Widlowski
Sports Editor

The list of records, championsbips and accolades that the Joliet Junior College men's baseball team has accumulated over the years is quite impressive. Last season alone JJC set a school record with the most wins ever in a season with 49, had three players make the All-American team, and won the NJCAA Baseball National Championsbip.

Teams cannot live on tradition alone however and the 2009 version of the JJC baseball team is looking to begin a wbole new chapter of success.

Head coach Wayne King bas a fresh group of guys coming in for the new season and wants them to gain as much game experience as possible early in the season.

"Our freshmen are really going to have to play," said King. "We bave to count on our sophomores early and get those fresbmen to catcb up."

Some of the key freshmen that JJC will count on to have a big season are Jon VonAsdlen, Ernesto Irizarry, Zac Volland and Tim Meyer. The Wolves will also depend on freshmen pitchers Edgar Silva, Patrick Murray and the freshman pitcher that Coach King is most excited about 6'3" Zach Petrick from Morris.

One of the great learning experiences that the freshmen will have during the early part of the season is the team's annual spring trip to Tennessee. The trip will include the team playing 13 games in just seven days.

> One of the great learning experiences that the freshmen will have during the early part of the season is the team's annual spring trip to Tennessee.

"The trip is a good time to bond together, and we get a chance to find out what our strengths and weaknesses are," King said.

King also mentioned that the trip isn't a time to accumulate wins but is meant to be a time to play a lot of games in order to develop the players and make them better. While JJC will make the trip with only two or three games under their belts, most of the other schools will have already played 15 or 16 games.

In order for the team to be successful throughout the season the Wolves will also depend on returning sophomores Alex McCluskey, Tyler Thompson and Brett Velon. Ryan Bethard, Tom Kimbro and Steve Styck are all returning sophomore pitchers as well.

As always the ultimate goal of any JJC baseball team throughout the years has been to have a chance to win a National Championship at the end of the season. This year's team is no different and King will have his guys playing very well in a short amount of time.

The Wolves opened the season on Mar. 6 against McHenry County College.

Softball 2009 Spring preview

Elise Simcox
Staff Writer

The Joliet Junior College Lady Wolves softball team will look to improve on their sub-par season from a year ago. The players and coaches are determined heading into the 2009 campaign.

When looking at JJC freshman softball player Kaprinta Hiller, there is a clear look of tenacity on her face.

When asked how demanding the physical and mental preparation for this season has been she replied, "Critical, tough- we put every ounce of energy into our practices."

JJC has been hard at work, practicing six out of seven days a week. One goal that the team is trying to achieve this season is to make it to the regional cbampionship.

"We're on a different level this year," said Hiller in regards to the preparation the team has had already in the early part of this season.

While talking to bead Coach Emily Marino, she expressed disappointment with the results of last season. The Lady Wolves had a strong record of 11-2 in conference but had a disappointing overall record of 22-24.

A new addition to the team is assistant coach Marcy Wilus, a former DePaul softball player who has made it to the World Series twice and was an all-conference player.

"We are excited to have her; she has offered some great guidance to the girls," said Marino.

With her and five other returning sophomores, Marino is confident they will make it to the regional championship game this season.

Players to look out for include Kat Marin, a middle infielder who will be the leadoff hitter, and on the mound Erica Rodriguez, a returning pitcher.

The team has already suffered some injuries but Marino thinks as long as health doesn't keep affecting the team, they should be in position to do very well this season.

Their first game of the season is set for Wed., Mar. 11 against Ancilla College.

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Wolves Basketball

Wolves fall in final game against DuPage

Photo by Mike DiNovo

Brandon Redmond shoots over College of DuPage defenders in a game earlier this season.

Jake Widlowski
Sports Editor

Expectations were high and the team was ready to get back to Delhi, N. Y., home of the NJCAA basketball tournament. All the JJC men's basketball team had to do was win the Region IV basketball tournament championship against the College of DuPage.

It might have sounded easy but the College of DuPage (21-11) was not going to just hand the Wolves the championship for the second season in a row, especially on their home court.

JJC ran into a determined team on Feb. 28 and lost the championship game to COD by a score of 54-40.

The game was a low scoring affair from the beginning and 13 minutes into it JJC clung to 10-9 lead. This was the last lead that the Wolves would have in the game as COD went on a 14-6 run to end the first half.

DuPage would continue to gather momentum and points throughout the first six minutes of the second half and at the 14 minute mark, COD had a 33-22 lead.

Nationally ranked JJC wouldn't fold easily however, and went on an 11-1 run over the next five minutes to get the score to 34-33.

This was the closest the Wolves would get as COD consistently hit their free throws and grabbed important rebounds the remainder of the game.

"DuPage was able to gain control of the game because of their rebounding. We were not able to get into any rhythm offensively due to the pressure from DuPage and the lack of execution of the offensive game plan against their pressure," said twelfth year head coach Joe Kuhn.

> "We were not able to get into any rhythm offensively due to the pressure from DuPage and the lack of execution of the offensive game plan against their pressure."
>
> - Head Coach Joe Kuhn

One stat that stood out from the game was another sub-par effort from the free throw line for the Wolves. JJC went 13-26 at the foul line for the game and 7-18 in the second half alone when it mattered the most.

This was not the first time the Wolves have played DuPage this season either. JJC had won both previous matchups by scores of 69-61 and 74-63.

"We knew what was coming but did not execute against it," said Kuhn.

Sophomore Neal Hudson was the only player to score in double digits for the Wolves and finished with 16 points and 13 rebounds.

The second leading scorer was Teray Whisby with only seven points. Both Hudson and Whisby were named to the Region IV All Tournament Team.

"Neal really progressed as the season went on. He created match-up problems for the other team because of his size and ability to shoot the ball," said Kuhn in regards to Hudson.

The loss marked the end of the season for the JJC men's basketball team and they finished with an overall record of 25-7.

"This team was a fun team to coach and they had a very successful season," said Kuhn. "25 wins at this level is very difficult to get to."

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Lady Wolves lose heartbreaker to Harper

Jake Widlowski
Sports Editor

Despite being the N4C regular season conference champions, the JJC women's basketball team could not find a way to win the Region IV Conference Tournament.

On Feb. 26 the Lady Wolves' season came to an end with a heart breaking 65-64 defeat to the hands of Harper Community College. As the No. 1 seed in the Regional Tournament, JJC had the luxury of playing the No. 4 seed, but they found out it was hardly a luxury at all.

> "This wos o fun teom to coach. Eorly on in the seoson we took some losses, but it helped us grow in the second holf of the seoson."
>
> - Head Coach Shaun Sandersan

Harper came out of the gates very determined to knock off the regular season champs and were able to perform at a high level throughout the game. The game was close throughout and with just six seconds remaining Harper clung to a one point lead.

JJC attempted to push the ball up the court for a chance at the game winning basket but were called for a traveling violation which ended the game.

Sophomore Terri Warnsley and freshman Christine Wallen both had solid efforts in the game. Wallen had 17 points and 8 rebounds, while Warnsley had 18 points, 11 rebounds, 3 steals, and was also the only player from the Lady Wolves to be named to the All-Tournament Team.

"We hope Christine's (Wallen) production in that game was a preview of next season," said head coach Shaun Sanderson.

According to the NJCAA women's basketball polls, the Lady Wolves were among the best junior college teams in the country to begin the season and were ranked in the national top 10 five weeks in a row. Despite the high ranking JJC could never really grab momentum or a significant winning streak throughout the season and finished with an overall record of 17-14.

"This was a fun team to coach. Early on in the season we took some losses but it helped us grow in the second half of the season," said Sanderson. "Whenever a program has a coaching change, they must get the current players to buy into the new system. Once that happened for us, we became more confident in our abilities."

The loss to Harper also marked the last game the team's four sophomores will ever play in a JJC uniform. Sophomores Martha Benjamin, Terri Warnsley, Chelsea Crawford and Brittany Edwards will all be moving onto four year schools next year to further pursue their education and possibly play some more basketball.

Photo by Mike DiNovo

Guard Brittany Edwards attempts to score against Rock Valley in the game on Feb 21.

Photo by Mike DiNovo

Tiana Nobles attempts a shot over Rock Valley defenders in a win earlier this season.

MALE ATHLETE OF THE ISSUE

BY JAKE WIDLOWSKI

Neal Hudson once again captures the honor of male athlete of the issue because of his solid play in the Region IV Tournament. Hudson scored 10 points and grabbed 6 rebounds in the Regional semi-final win over Truman College. Despite the loss Hudson was the main contributor in the Regional championship game against the College of DuPage. Hudson had a double-double with 16 points and 13 rebounds. Hudson was also named to the All-Tournament team at the Region IV tournament.

FEMALE ATHLETE OF THE ISSUE

Freshman Christine Wallen had an excellent game in the Region IV semi-final loss to Harper College. Wallen put in 17 points and had 8 rebounds. Wallen hit some key shots down the stretch as well as grabbed some clutch rebounds that allowed the Lady Wolves to grab a late lead in a game that they trailed in for over 35 minutes. "Wallen didn't make the all-tournament team, but she definitely made a strong case for it," said head coach Shaun Sanderson after the game.

Joliet Junior College

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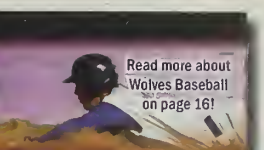

Read more about Wolves Baseball on page 16!

A Groundbreaking Event

Photo by Michael O'Brien

From left to right: Dr. Ryan Smith, vice president of institutional advancement and research, Student Trustee Deborah Dole, Trustee Dan O'Connell, President Proulx, Board Chair Bob Wunderlich, Board Secretary Barb DeLaney, and Jeff Julian, director of communications and external relations participate in the groundbreaking ceremony Tuesday, March 31 for the new Greenhouse Facility that will abut Houbolt Road.

Ashing a issue

JJC soon to be cigarette butt free

Shawn Faust
Co-Editor-In-Chief

Students returning from spring break may have noticed a number of signs posted around campus urging students not to chew and to dispose of their cigarette butts properly.

Contrary to what some may believe, JJC is not taking an anti-smoking stance but rather the signs were put up to reinforce the campus' existing policies.

"We have had problems with people chewing in buildings, tossing butts all over campus and smoking in non-designated areas," says Amy Sims, director of the Hollistic Wellness Center. "The signs are designed to make people recognize our campus policies."

The current policy outlaws the use of *all tobacco*, including chewing tobacco, in any areas other than the designated smoking areas.

While no campus law dictates where to dispose of discarded cigarette butts, several departments collaborated to put up the signs in an effort to clean up the campus by urging students to dispose of their butts in trash cans or the cigarette butt receptacles near the designated areas.

The signs and funding for the project came from a Live Free Tobacco Free Grant from the Illinois Department of Public Health.

In a related effort, on Thursday, Apr. 30 from 10-3p.m. campus volunteers (faculty, staff and students) will be working outside to clean up all the butts on campus.

While the signs were put up to enforce campus policies, Sims does urge students to quit smoking and notes that she has information about quitting smoking in her office for those who want help.

Study Abroad at JJC

Emily Likins
Staff Writer

Joliet Junior College offers a study abroad program in which their students have the opportunity to earn college credit while living in a foreign country.

Students can spend either a summer or an entire semester in Canterbury, England, Carlow, Ireland, Salzburg, Austria, Seville, Spain, Xi'an, China, San José, Costa Rica or Sydney, Australia.

Berta Arias, the Joliet Junior College representative in the Illinois Consortium for International Studies and Programs, said that she wishes that more of JJC's students would take advantage of this incredible opportunity.

"There is nothing that can come close to the experience," said Arias. "There just is no substitute."

> "There is nothing that can come close to the experience."
> - Berta Arias

The JJC study abroad program costs up to 40 percent less than programs run through most state universities, and scholarships are available through the program.

For the semester-long program, students earn between 12 and 15 credit hours, while the summer program earns students six to eight. All credits earned while participating in the program are completely transferable back to JJC.

Students can take a variety of classes, ranging from Macro Economics to Chinese Literature and Art, and students either room in a dorm or live with a host family, depending on the location.

All locations also include field trips to tour the country and time to experience the culture, which, according to Arias is the greatest benefit to participating.

The study abroad program allows students to gain knowledge of another culture, gain independence and world view, and participation increases employability, according to the Illinois Concortium for International Studies and Programs.

"The beauty of the program," said Arias, "is the affordability of it. The transparency of transfer allows students [illegible] fall behind while [illegible] amazing experience [illegible] up your world view [illegible] find [illegible] place in the world."

[illegible] information [illegible] the [illegible] program, visit [illegible] or call the Foreign [illegible]

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Spread the workload out

EDITORIAL

As the semester winds down, students are forced to spend the common all-nighter intently searching through pages and pages of notes, researching for the six final projects and papers that they have to complete in the same week, not to mention any tests they might have.

The lack of sleep creates zombie-like students who wander down the bridge in search of caffeine (that's how we at the Blazer are after working on the paper all weekend, but we digress).

Students' plea with their professors to spread the load with the projects and professors thwart students' responses with a "you have known about this since week five!" And while that may be true, back in week five, we were concentrating on what we were working on then, not a research paper that's due in two months! Call it youthful ignorance if you want.

Switching gears here, we'd also like to talk about Monday tests. Why oh why, would you schedule a test on a Monday? We understand that professors need to spread their workload as well so that they're not grading 130 tests at a time. But having tests on Mondays after most students have worked the entire weekend? That doesn't make sense.

Speaking from our personal experiences here, during production weekend, when we're putting the paper together, we work ALL weekend! We don't have time to study for that Monday test.

Back to having six projects in a week, it seems to us that most professors simply cannot fathom the life of a community college student, which for most of us consists of multiple jobs and outrageous bills.

Therefore we have a proposal for them, spread the projects around and you'll see less zombie-like students who fall asleep during your lectures (well some will still fall asleep as you probably know).

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The mystery of the prerequisites

COMMENTARY

Jim Sheldon
Co-Editor-in-Chief

I want to be a journalist. I think I am well-rounded, which is something that it's important for a journalist to be. As a writer, I will most likely have to write about hundreds of different things, some more boring than others. And those things will have to be researched; but that would be my job as a journalist, and it's one of the parts of the job that I don't mind.

I like talking to people, asking questions and learning new things. You learn something new every day. As stressful as production weekend can be, I like working under deadlines and seeing my name in print is definitely a perk of the job.

But to do any of this professionally, I need to get a degree first. I do respect the fact that I have a lot to learn, and I'm still young, so I have time to learn it, but I am beginning to think of my college degree as an extremely expensive certificate showing that I read a few books and took a few tests and then forgot the majority of the information later.

Out of the four classes I'm taking this semester, only one of them is a journalism course. At first I thought this was poor planning on my part, but then I realized that every class I'm taking is a prerequisite course.

To write an article, what in the world do I need to know about star clusters or algebraic expressions?

One day down the road when I'm sitting at my desk as the sports editor of a newspaper, it is highly doubtful that I will need to know what "2x + 4y" really means. Yes I will have to know basic measurements. But I passed third grade, so I'm covered.

Don't get me wrong; I think it's extremely important for students to know basic skills, like how to properly read, write, spell and complete basic math functions, but aren't these the things we studied in that four-year period of our lives called high school?

Isn't that why I had to take the ACT? To prove that I was educated enough to go to college so I could further my knowledge and career, not sit through classes that aren't benefitting me in the long run?

On the other hand, I understand that there are some people who will need to know that stuff and more power to them. It's just not what I'm interested in personally and it's not what I need to know to be successful in my life.

Let's face it—half of the things that we as students stress about during college will be things we never need to know again, unless you're playing a fierce game of Trivial Pursuit or are a contestant on Jeopardy.

> Let's face it—half of the things that we as students stress about during college will be things we never need to know again, unless you're playing a fierce game of Trivial Pursuit or are a contestant on Jeopardy.

Why does a writer need to sit in a biology class? Why does a nurse need to sit in a theater class?

The average student spends two years completing college prerequisites, the time that supposedly you can get an Associate's degree at JJC. I'm not saying you can't get one in that time frame, but it's pretty close to impossible. Another two to five years are spent really learning your trade.

And for example, when a person goes to any type of trade school, they learn about their trade and are done in one to two years. Why can't college be the same way?

If colleges cut the nonsense and let us learn what we really need to know, then not only would college students' debts be cut, but more tax-paying people would be in the workforce, helping to restore the economy.

Don't think that I'm a slacker looking for the easy way out. I realize that college is important, but I feel like it loses its importance with every class I take that I can't find a real use for.

I've always been told that as a writer you shouldn't complain about things unless you have a solution to the problem.

So here is my solution to the pre-req. problem. If you are smart enough to score well on the ACT, say like from 19-36, then you are smart enough to take the classes that you need in order to get a specific degree. If you score lower than that, then you should be required to take prerequisite classes.

Some will agree and some will disagree, and that's ok. It's just my opinion, so don't hunt me down.

Correction

In our Feb. 25 issue in the story "Essence of Africa," we printed that "[Edward] Semu-Oke covered topics in African history spanning from the first civilization in Pangaea..." This is incorrect – Pangaea was the supercontinent that existed during the Paleozoic and Mesozoic eras about 250 million years ago. Human civilization did not exist at that time. We apologize for the misunderstanding.

- Blazer

The Pop Culture Commentary with Shelley Holmgren

Family Outsourcing: Celebrities refusing to adopt from the mainland!

First and foremost, I want to say that I am all for overseas aid. I understand that there are countries overseas that have nowhere near the resources we have here in our country and it's our civic duty to share the wealth. However, before we extend our help overseas, should we look at the cracks in our foundation first? Truth be told, I am not talking about the United Nations here. In all actuality, I am here to discuss the craze amongst celebrities to "outsource" for their children. Needless to say, it is extremely admirable to adopt from overseas, however, do you realize that celebs rarely if ever adopt from the United States?

Of course, this is especially relevant considering the fact that the ancient "Queen of Pop" herself was refused her bid for overseas adoption. Madonna had made arrangements to adopt four-year-old Mercy James from Malawi, where "Madge" had adopted her son David Banda in 2006. According to UK's The Telegraph, the judge ruled against Madonna's bid because it could encourage child trafficking. Hmm… it could be that or it could be the fact that the woman is 50, already has three children, and isn't exactly an ideal "role model" if you have seen her stage costumes, or lack thereof. Of course, Madonna immediately appealed the ruling, knowing that if she let this one slide, she would never be able to catch up with the Jolie-Pitt's on child count. We definitely know it's not for tax purposes.

Of course, the other shining example of a family trying to become the "It's a small world after all" theme ride is of course, Brad and Angelina. On top of having three biological children together (Shiloh, Vivienne, and Knox), the couple have three adopted children (Maddox, Pax, and Zahara). Jolie is a Goodwill Ambassador for the UN Refugee Agency, motivating her to take a "souvenir" in the form of a child from every country she visits. Other notable instances of celebrity "outsourcing" include Meg Ryan, Julie Andrews and Mia Farrow, although Ms. Farrow would argue that you should really keep your kids away from your husbands, right Woody Allen?

What I really want to know is why is it so unpopular to adopt kids from the United States? According to the National Coalition for the Homeless, 1.35 million U.S. children are homeless on any given night and in 2003, children under the age of 18 accounted for 39 percent of the homeless population. I really encourage celebrities (because I know they are all avid readers of the Blazer) to follow the example of Hugh Jackman who has adopted not one, but two kids from the United States. See? Outsourcing may not always be the answer after all (or ever…).

Gardening Corner
with Nicole Gear

Expressing loss with life: memory gardens

In the age of technology, I think most of us garden because it gives us the opportunity to connect with nature and enjoy the literal fruits of our labor.

In my grandparents' day, they gardened in order to survive. The size of their meals would depend on how well their garden flourished. In the late summer, my grandmother Pauline worked tirelessly, canning and preserving fruits and vegetables to line the old shelves of what they referred to as the "root cellar", formerly known as the bomb shelter.

But don't get me wrong, they planted for pure pleasure too. On their property you could find tulips and daffodils, geraniums, daylilies and roses and most of the traditional flowers of the day.

So when my dear granny departed this life last month, it was only natural to begin planning her memory garden. What better way to honor this salt-of-the-Earth woman than to create a space alive with the colors and scents that she loved? Besides following some basic principles of design, a memory garden has as many possibilities as there are people and pets to be remembered.

> Besides following some basic principles of design, a memory garden has as many possibilities as there are people and pets to be remembered.

Perhaps most importantly, choose plants that will thrive in the conditions of your garden. Some factors to consider are size, sun exposure, water requirements and soil type/pH. Using plants that are native to your area are generally easier to care for and "Let Illinois look like Illinois." (Thank you, Lady Bird Johnson!)

Some stand-by classics are purple coneflower (Echinacea purpura), black-eyed Susans (Rudbeckia hirta) and grasses such as prairie dropseed (Sporobolus heterolepsis) and little bluestem (Schizachyrium scoparium). A garden that is thought out is more appealing and likely to encourage you to linger.

There are countless sources in books and online to find design ideas. A simple way to give a garden structure is to choose a focal point. Depending on the scale of your project, this could be as simple as an ornamental tree or planter box or as grand as a pergola or pond. Go beyond visual appeal by including aromatic flowers and foliage to entice the nose. Herbs serve a dual purpose as they smell delightful in the garden and add a distinct flavor to a variety of dishes. Rosemary is a Victorian symbol of remembrance and therefore especially appropriate.

There are a plethora of sweetly scented plants including phlox, sweet pea (Lathyrus odoratus), nicotiana, sweet alyssum (Lobularia maritime) and scented geraniums (check out Pelargonium crispum 'Varigatum' for it's interesting foliage)

And finally, personalize it! For grandma's garden, I intend to use only the plants that she tended during her lifetime. Therefore, the latest cultivars would not have a place here. Using namesake flowers, such as rose, lily or daisy or including a loved one's favorite colors and flowers will evoke memories of them.

Find creative ways to express what they enjoyed in life. For instance, for someone who worked with wood, plant an oak tree. Set up a bird bath for a bird watcher or hang a wind chime for someone who loved music. Craft stores sell a variety of kits to make personalized bricks and stepping stones, so the possibilities are endless.

A memory garden can bring us comfort and help fill the heart's empty space with peace. Though my grandmother has left this realm, she has sown within me and many others, the seed of her simple wisdom.

I try to cultivate these values in myself just as I cultivate the Earth, following in her footsteps. And as I work in the garden, clearing away the old to make way for the newly emerging shoots, I carry on her life and her work.

Interested in getting some practical experience in journalism? Contact the Blazer at blazermail@jjc.edu

David Seward
director of financial aid

Getting financial aid may not be as difficult as you think...

Free Application for Federal Student Aid. Wow. that's a mouthful. And it sounds really complicated to fill out. But actually, it is not difficult to complete and it could help you pay for college.

There are a number of federal and state programs that make funds available to students. All you have to do is apply for financial aid through the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, commonly known as FAFSA, at www.fafsa.ed.gov. But you must complete the process in order to determine eligibility for financial aid.

The Financial Aid Office at Joliet Junior College is ready and willing to help any student through the financial aid process.

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JJC Financial Aid offers seminars, online quizzes and a financial aid checklist to help students understand and complete the financial aid process.

By completing the FAFSA, you may be eligible for one of the following programs:

Federal Grants - Pell Grant eligibility is based on the Expected Family Contribution (EFC) as indicated on the results of the aid application. The Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG) is awarded based on student need and availability. The Academic Competitiveness Grant (ACG) is awarded to those students who have had the required high school preparation and need, as determined by the FAFSA.

State Grants - The Monetary Award Program (MAP) and the Illinois Incentive for Access Program (IIAP) are available for needy students that are determined to be Illinois residents.

Work - The Federal Work-Study (FWS) program on campus is available to students with aid eligibility. Students meeting the criteria for the America Reads/ America Counts program may work off campus at elementary schools in the area. Students on academic probation are not eligible for work-study.

Loans - Direct Subsidized and Direct Unsubsidized loans are available to students. Parents may use the Federal Direct Plus loan to assist dependent students with the cost of education.

Remember, you can eliminate some of the anxiety of paying for college by completing the FAFSA form for the 2009/2010 academic year. If you have questions, please visit our Web site at www.jjc.edu/info/financialaid or come to the Financial Aid Office located in J-1045.

The Blazer welcomes participation by our readers. Letters should be 300 words or fewer and we reserve the right to edit for content. You may send your letter through inter-office mail, postal mail, by email, or by dropping off at the Blazer office in F-1009.

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News Briefs

The Braidwood Knights of Columbus will host o fish fry on Friday, April 10, from 4 to 7:30 p.m. The fish dinner will be held in Fother White Hall, behind Immaculate Conception Church, 110 S. School St. in Braidwood.
The menu will include perch, French fries, macaroni & cheese, cole slow, bread, Pepsi, Diet Coke, 7-Up, raspberry ice tea, lemonode, coffee and milk. Grilled cheese ond cheese pizzos will olso be available. The cost for the perch dinner will be $8 for adults, $6 for seniors and $5 for children oges 5 to 12. Corry-outs will be ovoiloble.

The Knights of Columbus will host o pancake breakfast on Sunday, May 3, at Father White Hall behind Immoculote Conception Church, 110 S. School St. in Broidwood.
The KCs will serve poncokes, scrombled eggs, carved ham, bacon, sousoge gravy ond biscuits, hashbrown cosserole, French toast cosserole, hot butter syrup, summer berry topping, pastries, orange juice, coffee and milk from 7 a:m. to 12:30 p.m. Carry-auts will be available and donatians *will be accepted. Proceeds will ga ta the* St. Gobriel Unbom project.

Project Achieve committed to improving college experience

Jim Sheldon
Co-Editor-in Chief

There is a student support services program on campus that is dedicated to enhancing the college experience for low-income, first-generation, or disabled college students.

Project Achieve, located in room H-1001 on the bridge, offers services such as workshops, four-year college visits, personality and career testing, tutoring, academic counseling and transfer support and career exploration. And because it's federally funded, the services are available at no cost to JJC students.

Students whose parents didn't graduate from a four-year college are eligible. Students who have financial aid or low income are eligible, as are disabled students. All students must be working on an associate degree, either transfer or applied.

Qualified students have access to counseling, free professional tutoring in English, math and computer science and they may also participate in multicultural events.

Students who join Project Achieve benefit academically, culturally and personally and experience an improvement in their GPA, an easier transition to four-year institutions, increased self-esteem and cultural enrichment, according to the Project Achieve website.

Some activities that they've done in the past include an African bazaar, the Joliet Township Gospel Choir Concert, the Historical Black Colleges Tour and on Mar. 26, there were two showings of the film "The Souls of Black Girls."

> "After every presentation we have the students fill out evaluation forms which ask what the overall quality of the workshop was and whether the presentation was clear and organized."
> - Jewell Dennis

"The Souls of Black Girls" is a documentary that questions whether women of color are suffering from a self image disorder as the result of images in the media. Dr. Roya Falahi, professor Edward Senu-Oke' and Project Achieve Coordinator Jewell Dennis were the presenters of the film.

"After every presentation we have the students fill out evaluation forms which ask what the overall quality of the workshop was and whether the presentation was clear and organized," said Dennis. "The students got a lot out of the film."

Some of the students' responses were: "It involved both genders and presented info for all races to learn about."

"It makes you become even more open-minded."

"The movie was very motivational and made a difference and made every single woman no matter what color they are, feel beautiful."

"The film was interesting and empowering; it gave a lot of important messages."

If you want to join Project Achieve, you must make an appointment with the academic specialist/counselor. During the appointment, an intake/orientation will take place. All a student must bring is an estimate of the family's income for recording purposes.

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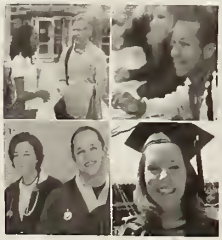

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A history of success at JJC

The Success Series continues to present successful alumni to inspire current students of JJC

Jake Widlowski
Sports Editor

Joliet Junior College has been putting on the Alumni Success Story series for the past seven years. The Success Stories are a series of speeches given by past graduates of JJC.

Kelly Myers, the assistant director of Institutional Advancement and Alumni Relations here at JJC, has been in charge of the Success Story Series for the past six years and has done her best to make the series interesting and fun for all.

Not only does the series premier some of the most prestigious and successful alums from JJC but also treats all visitors to a free lunch on their way in to the speech.

Myers usually focuses on the journey that the alumni's have been on since graduating when choosing the speakers for the series. The Success Stories are meant to stress what the alumni's have learned or what they would have done differently during their time at JJC or after graduating.

The main focus is to help current students learn what to do with their time here at the college from the perspective of someone who has already been through the process. The series is meant to build a strong connection between the people who have graduated and those who are currently enrolled.

"We want to stay close to our alumni because they are part of what makes this college great," said Myers. "We want the students to stay close to JJC because we want them to come back and stay involved after they graduate. The Success Series helps us do that."

Despite being in charge of all things related to alumni's, Myers isn't the only person that selects the people that will speak at the Success Story Series. Many different people from various departments throughout JJC will work together in order to select the speakers. The committee tries to offer a diverse representation of different careers.

The Success Story Series speeches are every month with the exception of December and January which make for a total of seven speeches a year.

Brown Bag: 20 years of tradition

Shelley Hohmann
Production Manager

A time-honored tradition at Joliet Junior College, the Brown Bag Lecture Series has been a staple at the college for the past twenty years. With topics spanning from organ donation, to gender, and even to the Simpsons, the presentations have offered many different perspectives to the college community.

Sponsored by the Professional & Personal Development Committee, the first of the Brown Bag presentations took place in the spring of 1989 and they continue to be a success at the college. Presenters come from all different parts of the college community, including the professors on campus.

Fred Harris of the Brown Bag Committee says that the committee is open to taking recommendations from the staff, but he has also approached individuals for doing so. From there, the topics are voted by the committee and scheduled for the upcoming year.

Harris said the presentations are important because they help the staff reach out to their students.

"We have had some great presenters over the years, most of whom our own faculty. So many times these students would have never had a chance to hear them speak," said Harris.

JJC professor Jim Baskin has been a part of the Brown Bag tradition since 2000, and has continued to be a presenter of various topics, including "The Trials of William Shakespeare: A Discussion of Lawyers and the Bard" and even "How to Read a Comic Book." Baskin teamed up with Professor Roxanne Munch in 2007 for the presentation "Life According to The Simpsons." Baskin notes that it was important to him to give the presentation because it gave him the opportunity to connect with students and staff alike.

> "I think it's important for anyone, not just students, to try to learn about new things or more about something you are already familiar with."
> - Fred Harris

"One professor even mentioned to me that although she had never watched an episode of The Simpsons before and that our talk had given her a new appreciation of the series," he said.

Baskin's positive experience from his past presentations inspires him to continue with the Brown Bag tradition.

"I would certainly give another Brown Bag topic if given the chance. Furthermore, I would also like to attend more Brown Bag lectures," he said.

With scheduling conflicts like school and work, it can make it difficult for students to attend these presentations. According to Harris, streams from the Brown Bag presentations of the past three years are now available on the JJC website, available in mp3 format for listening convenience. Harris's motivation for making the presentations available was to not only make it accessible to the JJC community, but to those who have never even set foot on campus. "I think it's important for anyone not just students to try to learn about new things or more about something you are already familiar with," said Harris.

JJC student Amanda Kramer notes how convenient this new technology is for students.

"Last year I was not able to make a presentation that I really wanted to go to. I was thrilled to find that recently it was put online, so now I can finally tune in."

For further information about the Brown Bag Lecture Series and to see upcoming presentations, go to the JJC website.

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Ashley Greuel

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Elmhurst College

Photo by William Yarrow

Poet Tony Barnstone was at JJC reading his poetry on March 31. This was Barnstone's second poetry reading at JJC.

Poet Tony Barnstone visits JJC

Steve Garrison
Staff Writer

Tony Barnstone read from his collected works Mar. 31, his second poetry reading at JJC, in front of about 25 students, thanks to the organizing efforts of professor William Yarrow.

"The International Education Department at JJC received a Title VI grant from the U.S. Department of Education," said Yarrow. "The grant supported course development and education about Asia and other countries. Funds from that grant brought in Tony Barnstone to meet with JJC students and give a lecture/poetry reading."

Barnstone, a professor of English at Whittier College, was raised in Bloomington, Ind., and lived for many years abroad before receiving a Ph.D. in English Literature at U.C. Berkeley. He has won numerous awards and fellowships for his work, including awards from The National Endowment for the Arts, The California Arts Council and The National Poetry Prize.

Barnstone read extensively from his book of sonnets, "Sad Jazz: Sonnets," a poetic form he refers to as a "machine for thinking," because it challenges the reader to study the poem and uncover the meaning hidden within.

"I met Tony Barnstone at the American Literature Association Symposium on Poetic Form conference in San Diego in 2005," said Yarrow. "We stayed in touch and I decided to use his poetry volume "Sad Jazz" in my online creative writing class (English 120 W1) and have used that volume since 2006."

Barnstone's most evident and overarching theme in his work is the mechanics of poetry itself. Barnstone intentionally pushes himself in writing by challenging the medium and his own expectations,.such as by writing in closed form, reinventing old rhyme schemes and referencing other poets in his work.

His individual works have explored such themes as World War II, American pulp fiction, jazz music, tarot cards and love.

"I like poetry that says something," said Barnstone.

Barnstone suggests to aspiring poets that they read everything and write what they know. Language "mulches," or gathers together into a synthesis that creates a unique poetic voice.

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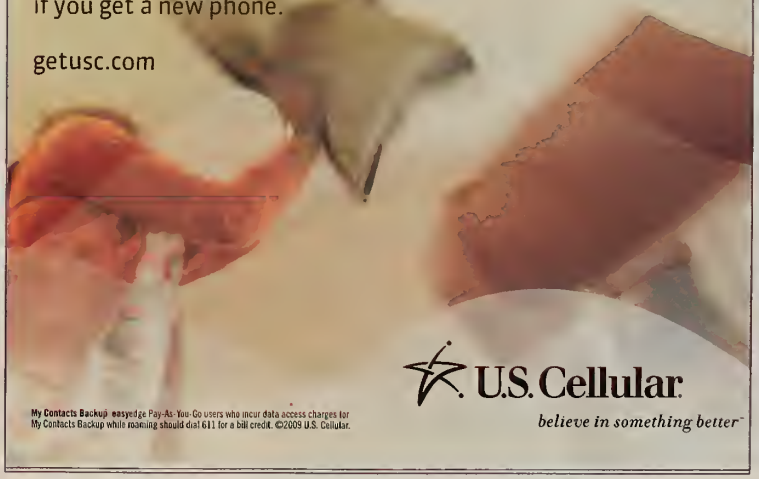

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Congratulations to JJC's College Bowl for Placing Second in the Spring Regional Tournament

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Captain:
Adam Carston
Members:
Nicole Griffis
Theresa Wollgast

Moraine Valley: 3-1
JJC: 2-2
Prairie State: 0-2

First Place: Moraine Valley Community College

Second Place: Joliet Junior College

Student Government contributes to JJC

Charlene Cudia
Staff Writer

Student government is an important part of Joliet Junior College. Many important decisions and planning for certain events come from this group. There are 21 active members, including a Student Trustee who represents the student body.

"The Student Trustee is generally unknown and undervalued," said Pam Dilday, the Student Government advisor. There are three candidates for Student Trustee, all of whom you can vote for. In order to make your voice be heard, vote in the upcoming Student Trustee elections which will be held April 8 and 9. There will be posters hanging up all around the school with the three candidates' informatioo oo them, and to vote, just go to jjc.edu. There will be information on the site.

> "We do things for charitable organizations like Make a Wish and homeless shelters, along with Jail and Bail and family outreach."
> - Pam Dilday.

In order to qualify to be a Student Trustee, you must possess a 3.0 GPA, no disciplinary actions on your record, have nine credit hours already accumulated and be currently enrolled for six credit hours and not be a full or part-time employee.

"There are over 14,000 students in our school and only 200 students voted for Student Trustee," said Dilday.

Student Government has three main goals for the school. Their first goal is sustainability, and to accomplish this, they created a committee to go green. This committee holds a garbage audit each year and this year when they decided to check the garbage in the school, the group made a startling discovery. They had three giant garbage bags filled with plastic and cans that students threw in there.

The second goal of student government is community outreach, or charitable work.

"We do things for charitable organizations like Make a Wish and homeless shelters, along with Jail and Bail and family outreach," said Dilday.

Their last goal is campus climate. To accomplish this goal, student government provides students with information online, like your campus surveys on Angel. This was established to keep students aware of what is going on. Another thing that Student Government does is Battle of the Bands, which Dilday said draws great crowds.

Upcoming activities include the Fun Fair and the Jail and Bail. Jail and Bail is where faculty and staff somehow get issued a warrant for their arrest online or they get arrested in the school. In order to get out of the warrant or to get out of jail, they need to collect donations or else they will stay in jail.

Elementary teachers club reaches 5th year

Jim Sheldon
Co-Editor-In Chief

Back in 2004, Joliet Junior College math professor Erica Kwiatkowski-Egizio, a former preschool teacher, wanted to work with pre-service teachers and had an idea for a club.

The Elementary Teachers of Tomorrow Club, now in its 5th year, has 40 members. When it first started in 2004, they had only 15.

The club is for students who are interested in teaching elementary education, including special education.

Egizio advises the club along with Angela McNulty, who became the co-advisor in the fall of 2007 when Egizio was on sabbatical leave, working on her doctorate in math education. There is a president of the club, Lauren Kenaga, a vice-president, Heather Hagberg and a secretary, Claudia Jasso.

"The students are given the opportunity to network with other people who are also going into the education field," said Egizio. "We also bring in different speakers who give our students knowledge about things such as how to write a resume for a teaching position or how to use educational software in your schools."

The club also works jointly with the Early Childhood Center, which is in B-1001 on Main Campus.

"We do a lot of work with them called service learning and the students who are in the club volunteer their time to work at the ECC either during the day or at night for family fun nights or parent education programs," said Egizio.

> "We usually have 5-6 activities per month that we do, some with the Early Childhood Center and some with area schools."
> - Erica Kwiatkowski-Egizio

Meetings are held once a month. This semester they're meeting on the first Wednesday of the month but the day varies each semester depending on people's schedules.

"We usually have 5-6 activities per month that we do, some with the Early Childhood Center and some with area schools," said Egizio.

Last month, they participated in a Family Math and Science night at Mazon Elementary School and in the fall semester, they hosted the same event here.

"One of our big events is a transfer university info session, where I bring in representatives from local 4-year institutions who are there for education majors, either elementary, early childhood or special education," said Egizio. "They are able to answer questions from students about their programs."

They also have done many events with the ECC such as a Soup Night, a Happy Birthday Mr. Rogers and Dr. Seuss night and a Spring Gardening event that was held on Apr. 6.

"Doing the activities with the ECC gives our students the opportunity to work with real-life students right here on campus," said Egizio.

On Apr.22-23, the club will help with the ECC's Art Sale which will take place from 9:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m. on the Bridge. On Apr. 28, they are assisting with the Parent Education program on Safety Seats in the ECC from 6:30-8:00 p.m. On May 9, they will have volunteers at Student Parents Resolving Issues and Transcending in Education's Super Saturday.

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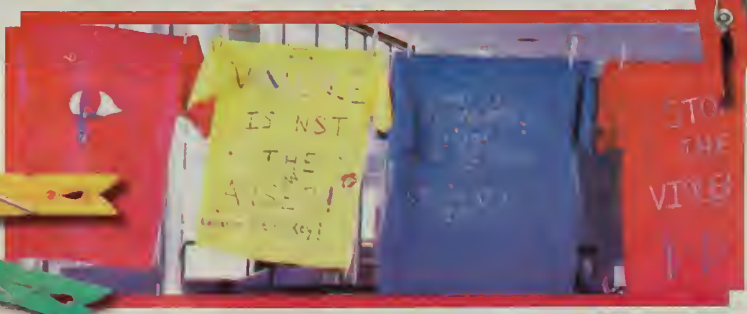
"Stop the violence...

Hanging Inspiration

Photos by Katherine Boehle

The 12th Annual Women's Empowerment Conference was held on April 3 in the Fine Arts Theatre. The conference was sponsored by Project Achieve, the Social and Behavioral Science Department, the Vice President of Academic Affairs, the IJC women's college and the Office of Student Activities. Luncheon Panel Speakers included Vicki-Crompton Teeter, who in 1986 lost her daughter Jenny, 15, to an abusive boyfriend. IJC chief of police Pete Comanda also spoke at the luncheon as did Samantha Mosher, the prevention educator at the Sexual Assault Services Center of Guardian Angel Community Services.



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what moves you

Your Health:

Broken heart actual medical problem

Kat Kozlowski
Production Manager

Broken hearts aren't what happens after a bad break-up anymore, now they're the name of a syndrome cleverly named Broken Heart Syndrome (BHS) that typically mocks a heart attack and occurs after an intense emotional or physical event.

The official name of the syndrome is Takotsubo cardiomyopathy, named in 1991 by Japanese doctors for the resemblance of the heart with this condition to a pot used for capturing octopuses called a Takotsubo, and the heart's temporary enlarging called cardiomyopathy.

The difference between BHS and a heart attack is that commonly a heart attack is caused by a blockage of an artery due to a blood clot forming at a site of narrowing from fatty buildup, and in BHS the arteries are not blocked but blood flow to the arteries may be slowed.

Symptoms may be caused by the heart reacting to a large surge of adrenaline, among other stress hormones, that cause the heart to temporarily weaken, and possibly become damaged.

BHS commonly occurs in the spring and summer months. Research is being done to further understand the complete cause of BHS.

Common symptoms are sudden chest pain and shortness of breath, and usually occur after events such as the unexpected death of a loved one, the news of a shocking medical diagnosis, domestic abuse or the loss of large sums of money. Physically, an asthma attack, a car accident or high-risk surgery are known to be a potential trigger to BHS.

JJC students under the age of 50 aren't really at risk; however, postmenopausal women are at a high risk for BHS. In fact, some research shows that 9 out of 10 cases of this syndrome occur in women.

Complications from BHS are rare, most that experience it are treated, quickly recover and don't have long-lasting effects. In some cases BHS has proven to be fatal, or lead to critical illness that requires emergency room treatment to keep the patient alive.

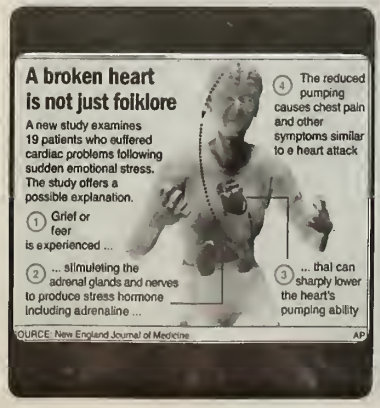
Symptoms may be caused by the heart reacting to a large surge of adrenaline, among other stress hormones, that cause the heart to temporarily weaken, and possibly become damaged.

The critically ill from BHS usually have a full recovery. Furthermore, if a patient has BHS, it is possible for a reoccurrence if a future stressful event occurs.

Treatment is usually similar to a heart attack until the difference between the two can be determined as the diagnosis. Once BHS is determined, there are no proven treatments to prevent additional episodes at the current moment.

Most doctors recommend long-term treatment with beta blockers or other medications that block the damaging effects of stress hormones on the heart.

Even though BHS isn't quite a risk to JJC students, it may be good to keep in mind for the future, for loved ones, or even for continuing education students.



The Pillars of Fitness:

Building Stronger Legs

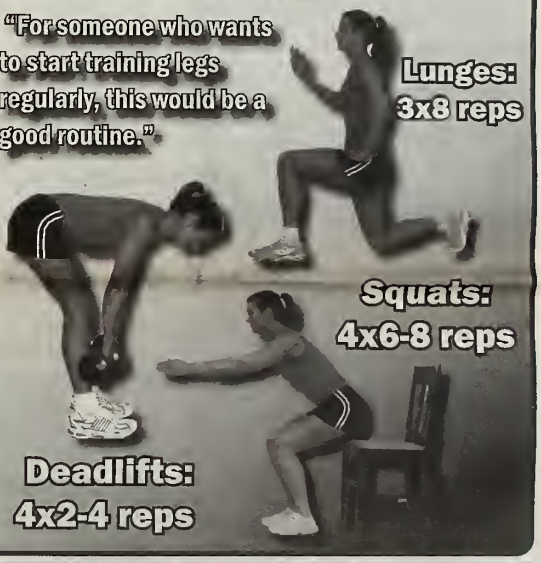
RJ Loebe
Staff Writer

A very overlooked, yet vital part of working out is growing the legs. Not only do people not want to have small legs and a big upper body, they are also losing out on training their body correctly.

There have been studies done showing the effects that exercises such as squats have on testosterone levels in males. Testosterone is stored in the legs in much larger quantities and working them out can add tissue growth faster than other parts of the body.

Legs can be a hard muscle to train as it can be very rigorous and tiring. A 10 minute light jog can help the blood flow to the legs as can a good stretch, which is vital if one plans to train the legs hard. There are many different exercises one can do for the legs. A general agreement among bodybuilders is the squat, deadlift and lunges are solid legbuilding exercises.

Calves are also a leg muscle not to be overlooked. Calf raises with 15-20 reps have shown to work well.



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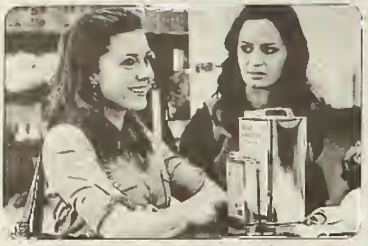


Photo courtesy moviweb.com

Partners in crime: Amy Adams (left) and Emily Blunt (right) figure out the best way to remove a blood stain from a shower.

Cleaning up house

Sunshine Cleaning finally gives Amy Adams the role that she deserves

Shelley Holmgren
Production Manager

From the producer of *Little Miss Sunshine*, comes *Sunshine Cleaning*, directed by Christine Jeffs (Sylvia), the film is the first screenplay by Megan Holley. The story revolves around Rose Lorkowski (Amy Adams), once on top of the social chain as a cheerleader in high school, as a single mother struggling to raise her eccentric son Oscar (Jason Spevack).

Facing the troubles of having to put her son through private school, Rose realizes that isn't going to happen on her house cleaning salary. For assistance, she turns to her lover, the supportive but married Mac (Steve Zahn) who gives her the idea to use her cleaning talents for a more post-mortem cause. And thus, Sunshine Cleaning is born. Rose, alongside younger lost-cause sister Norah (Emily Blunt), begins their biohazard removal/crime scene clean-up service – foul smelling shenanigans to ensue!

Following the equation of Little Miss Sunshine, Sunshine Cleaning makes an effort to make the idea of death a little less… well… morbid. Helping this cause is Little Miss veteran Alan Arkin, who plays Rose and Norah's father Joe. Following the same child-elder dynamic of his previous film, Arkin guides, or misguides in some cases, young Oscar through his insecurities of being considered "stupid" by his teachers. Joe, a widower in the true sense, passes his time by engaging in "insider" get rich quick schemes with young bright-eyed Oscar in tow.

I admit, due to her portrayals as whinnier-than-thou characters in *The Wedding Date* and *Miss Pettigrew Lives For A Day*, I misunderstood Adams' wide-eyed gaze as amateur, rather than sincere. However, it took the raw writing talent of Holley to give Adams this role for me to warm up to the actress. Nothing about her performance is contrived or unrelatable, on the contrary, I found myself breaking into pieces over her character's dilemma. Throughout the film's 91 minute span, you see a transformation in Adams' characters that is something truly special to behold. One of the most brutally honest moments of the film is when Rose realizes that Mac is never going to leave his wife, leaving her to confess; "There's not a lot that I am good at. But I'm good at getting guys to want me. Not date me, or marry me, but want me." It's raw acting in its finest and it really is a tribute to how far Adams' craft has come.

The true testament of this film is seen through the sisterly dynamic of Adams and Blunt. The chemistry and even the uncanny family resemblance is undeniable between the two actresses. The thin thread that haphazardly keeps the sisters together is the death of their mother, the damage of the event still echoing to their adulthood. Blunt as Norah is non-conforming, chain smoking, and all together quite damaged, but still, there is an honesty about her that resonates to audiences.

It's refreshing to see Blunt in a role that isn't as straight laced as her previous roles in The Devil Wears Prada, The Jane Austen Book Club and Dan In Real Life. In fact, she's the total opposite! The basis of the sister's relationship is that Norah screws up, and Rose fixes it – a fact that is challenged throughout the conquests of the film.

For those who are looking to walk away from the theater with the same swirly-stomach feeling they got from Little Miss Sunshine, you may be disappointed. Although this film isn't as uplifting as Greg Kinnear and Abigail Breslin dancing to "Super Freak," it still is something to give consideration to. Through the strong performances of the title characters, Sunshine Cleaning does not give the traditional cookie-cutter ending, but what it does do is assure you that no matter how dysfunctional a family is, they are still going to be there for each other in the end.

The Rimers of Eldritch set to premiere on JJC stage

Jonathan Boehle
Staff Writer

The final Joliet Junior College theatre production of the theatre season, "The Rimers of Eldritch," will be presented in four performances Apr. 23-26 in the Fine Arts Theatre which is located in K building on main campus.

The play, an off-Broadway production written by Pulitzer Prize winner Lanford Wilson in 1966, deals with a murder in a small town and the fallout among the town's residents. It features mature language and thematic elements that may be unsuitable for a younger audience.

Performances will be held on Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m., while the Sunday performance will be held at 2 p.m. Tickets will be $8 to the general public, $5 for JJC faculty, senior citizens and non-JJC students, and $3 for JJC students.

This will be the first time the play has been performed at JJC, but it's the second time for the director of the production, Clay Kirkland, who directed the play before when he was teaching at Louisiana State University of Alexandria 15 years ago.

Despite its seemingly simple plotline on paper, the play is more about the residents of this dying Midwestern town, which is what made the play appeal to Kirkland.

"It presents a collection of characters, and it turns out that really none of them are who they seem to be on the surface," said Kirkland. "Rimers looks at the darker side of small town life."

> "There are flashbacks, there are flash-forwards, time is very fluid," said Kirkland. "If you don't pay close attention, you will get so lost."
> - Clay Kirkland

The story is also told in a very unconventional manner, with almost the entire cast on stage the entire time in their own mini-sets and a unique time structure.

"There are flashbacks, there are flash-forwards, time is very fluid," said Kirkland. "If you don't pay close attention, you will get so lost."

The play has a vast ensemble, with seventeen characters, none of which are minor roles. The cast is made up of a wide variety of actors, from JJC students to community actors and even another JJC theatre director, Zach Bloomfield, who plays Skelly, the town's Peeping Tom.

"It's really nice working with Kirkland because it gives me a chance to interact with students in the play, and to learn, frankly," said Bloomfield. "It's nice to have someone helping you learn, instead of helping others learn, which is good."

JJC students that are in the play are excited by the production and undaunted by the play's ambitious structure and dark subject.

"I enjoy all of the different aspects of each character that develops," said student and Joliet resident David Laurich, who plays the crooked judge/preacher of the town. "Each one has their own infallibilities, and their different vices that they're trying to overcome. Each one has a different point of view. This town is more or less dying from the inside and I enjoy how every character is kind of killing it off."

Grisham's 'Associate' a disappointment

Katherine Boehle
Staff Writer

John Grisham, the New York Times bestselling novelist, probably best known for his "Skipping Christmas," which was turned into the 2005 movie starring Jamie Lee Curtis and Tim Allen *Christmas with the Kranks*, just came out with his 20th novel. "The Associate," which soon hit #1 on the New York Times bestselling list, and held the spot for some time.

The book starts out with Kyle McAvoy in his final semester of law school with all going well. He has a steady girlfriend and is editor in chief of the Yale Law Journal , but all soon goes to hell when he gets blackmailed into taking a position that he doesn't want as an associate at the world's biggest law firm. With the opposing people having a dirty secret from his early college years that he wants to keep buried, Kyle is forced to lie, cheat, and steal.

I would first like to say that although this is John Grisham's 20th novel, this is the first book that I have personally read from his collection.

For being #1 on the New York Times bestselling list, I was really disappointed in this novel. I found it rather boring, with way too much text and not enough action. It was one of those books that even though it is 374 pages long, it could easily get cut down to a 100 minute movie without losing much detail.

The novel I felt was really slow-moving, nearly having me asleep at some points and making me want to skip to the last chapter to see what happened. It really lacked activity and seemed to focus so much on detail, I almost felt like I was reading Utopia again.

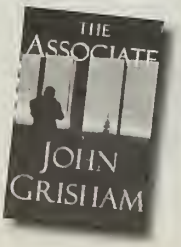
> The novel I felt was really slow-moving, nearly having me asleep at some paints and making me want ta skip ta the last chapter to see what happened.

Seriously, I do not need to know that the room they were in was 12 feet by 12 feet, or the laptop had a 12 inch screen, or a flow-blown paragraph on the description of people and what they're wearing that are only in the picture for a chapter or two. What made this kind of ironic is that I don't recall ever being given a description of the hero.

Then there's the hero, Kyle McAvoy. He got on my nerves so much, I almost wanted to throw the book across the room at some points. I guess it was only mainly in the first 50-100 pages or so, but that's still a pretty long time, making me want to slam the book down and pick out another book. I was honestly hoping that he would just ignore the blackmail, go to jail and the bad guys would win.

I will however, give the author credit for the original ending. At first it seemed like an ending that lacked true closure, but after contemplating it, the ending really did work with the book.

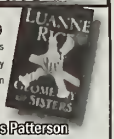
Overall, I didn't like this book. I felt like it was a waste of some 8 hours reading it and totally agree with the average 3 out of 5 stars out of some 300 reviews on both Amazon and Barnes & Noble.com. As I said in the beginning, this is the first Grisham book that I have read and it will probably be the last.



Upcoming Book Releases

The Geometry of Sisters by Luanne Rice

Luanne Rice looks at three pairs of sisters, from teenagers to middle-aged women, in The Geometry of Sisters. The story takes place at a private New England school, where the women deal with loss, secrets and ambition.



The 8th Confession by James Patterson

The 8th Confession is the eighth book in James Patterson's popular Women's Murder Club series. As Detective Lindsay Boxer investigates a high profile Hollywood murder, the Women's Murder Club is threatened by love brewing between one of its members and another detective.

Laura Rider's Masterpiece by Jane Hamilton

Laura Rider's Masterpiece by Jane Hamilton tells the story of a married couple who have stopped sleeping together, but still live amicably. The wife, Laura, encourages her husband to flirt with a local celebrity to help Laura write and promote a romance novel. A tangle of affairs and manipulation ensues, with humor and wit from Hamilton along the way.

Images & descriptions courtesy Publisher's Weekly

Upcoming Album Releases

April 7: Flo Rida "R.O.O.T.S." & Rascall Flatts "Unstoppable"
April 9: Lady Sovereign "Jigsaw"
April 14: Dave Mathews Band "Big Whiskey and the Groogux King" & Metric "Fantasies"

Images courtesy Amazon.com

Decemberists face few 'Hazards' of making concept album

Shelley Holmgren
Production Manager

In their nine year run as a group, The Decemberists have never shied from a challenge in creating their diverse and innovative sound. With noted influences like Camera Obscura and Death Cab for Cutie, the Portland, Ore. quintet always has a surprise up their sleeves for fans, and their fifth studio album *The Hazards of Love* is no exception.

The concept for the album began with leading man singer/songwriter Colin Meloy's fascination with British folk singer Anne Brigg's 1966 EP "The Hazards of Love," according to Rolling Stone. Because of a lack of a title track on the EP, Meloy was determined to pen one.

From there, the concept blossomed into a full blown twisting narrative that would do Lewis Carroll proud. Recorded in a similar vein to Pink Floyd's masterwork Echoes, Hazards tells the story of the tortured soul Margaret;

her lover William; the Forest Queen; and a pitiless rake narrating the tale. An ensemble borrowing vocals from Jim James of My Morning Jacket, Robyn Hitchcock and Rebecca Gates of The Spinanes complete the cast of characters.

It is not until 1:34 of the "Prelude" track that you are finally invited to a sound other than a constant drone. From there, organ-like chords are layered and crescendo into "The Hazards of Love 1," truly introducing the listener to what they will come to realize as an epic tale of romance, deceit and adventure. Much like the group's previous album The Crane Wife, the title track is broken up into several different versions of the same namesake.

> Is it "alright" ta sacrifice your children? Probably not, but to hear it from The Decemberists, the morbid becomes, dare I say, cheerful?

Margaret, voiced by Becky Stark of Lavender Diamond, begins her tribulations in "The Hazards of Love 1" where she falls in love with a mythical shape-shifting creature. From there, her conquests continue when she retreats to the forest, known as the Taiga in the third track "A Bower Scene," which erupts in harrowing guitar riffs. Leading into the next track "Won't Wait for Love (Margaret in Taiga)" where Margaret calls out to her lover William singing "And all this stirring inside my belly won't quell my want for love."

Although Stark makes a notable addition to the album, in the track "Isn't It A Lovely Night" solely, Stark's vocals in harmony with Meloy's pure sound is offsetting. Stark's breathiness shies in comparison to her female counterpart Worden on the album. Although I couldn't directly compare this to the awful coupling of Snow Patrol and Martha Wainwright on Eyes Open, it wouldn't be a stretch to imagine.

In my opinion, the best track of the album is "The Wanting Comes in Waves/Repaid," a mother/son narrative between William and the Queen. William, voiced by Meloy, is pleading to the queen for his freedom for just one night. The musical accompaniment for William's plea echoes the sounds of Rogue Wave, whereas the Queen's backlash has the fury and bass line of a White Stripes anthem.

The Queen, voiced by Shara Worden of My Brightest Diamond, is full of a savage ferocity when she sings "From cancer I cradled you, and now, this is how I am repaid?" Worden's vocals are haunting as she channels an early Janis Joplin in her wailing crescendo.

Photo courtesy myspace.com/thedecemberists

The Decemberists discover the 'Hazards' of not using MapQuest – ending up in a mystical forest! Next time, bring directions, kids.

One of the surprises of the album is "The Rake's Song," which although sounds quite mercifully cheerful like any other Decemberist track, is one of the most unnerving stories of The Hazards of Love, telling the tale of a man, once a happily married man, now a widower after the death of his wife due to child birth, leaving him to care for their three children in the process.

Where most men would bury themselves in their grief, the man, which comes to be known as the narrator for the album, wishes to rid himself of the "burden" and plot his children's deaths. It's haunting, but somehow, someway, still upbeat in Meloy's melodic cannon of singing "alright, alright, alright." Is it "alright" to sacrifice your children? Probably not, but to hear it from The Decemberists, the morbid becomes, dare I say, cheerful?

Overall, this album is not only a testament of Meloy's lyrical talents, but a shining example of how talented these musicians are. In *The Hazards of Love*, The Decemberists easily intertwine influences from the entire musical spectrum from folk, to metal, to even classical, and the finished product truly speaks for itself.

I caution you now; this is not an album that you listen to in pieces. If you want to get the full experience of *The Hazards of Love*, I suggest you allot the time for this 17-track masterpiece, you will not be disappointed. I assure you, this album is pure Decemberist greatness, something not to be sampled, but to be savored.

Photo courtesy of moviweb.com

Brothers in arms: Jason Segel (left) and Paul Rudd (right) are serenaded by the musical stylings of Rush.

Isn't it Bromantic?

An interview with the stars of the new film *I Love You, Man*

Matt Sheehan
Staff Writer

Comedic actors Paul Rudd and Jason Segel look longingly at each other atop the housing complex of Columbia College in Chicago, trying to avoid speaking over each other only to jumble and clutter the conversation with "No, you go first" and "You go ahead" and sighs of admiration.

After the playful eye-lovemaking, Rudd leads.

"I know that I had a great time working with Jason," he said. "It was the third comedy we had, but we've known each other for a while. I mean, look at this guy, it's hard not to fall in love with him."

And that's the way things go for the two, the stars of *I Love You, Man*, a film about the new fascination of the "bromance," a relationship of two straight men bonding in "man-dates."

Rudd plays Peter Klaven, a successful real estate agent who gets engaged to Zoey (Rashida Jones). Only problem is that he has no true guy friends to stand as his best man. Going on several unsuccessful "man-dates" and about to give up, Peter meets Sydney Fife (Segel), a free-spirited and uncensored guy with a fondness of Rush concerts and a penchant for letting his dog poop on the boardwalk.

Explaining the preparation for this movie went awry, in typical improvised fashion.

"We did have a couple of hangs, we went to the bar a couple of times and scored a few brews," Segel said.

"Yup. We scored a couple of bro-steins," Rudd replied.

This led to the drinks referred to as "bro-mens" and then as "bro-menheimer."

Rudd's ideal "man-date" in Chicago would also be quite masculine in tone.

"Well, you have to get some pizza," he said.

Segel pondered the question: deep dish?

Rudd swiftly jumped to the Windy City's defense.

"You have to, it's Chicago-style pizza," Rudd said. "You know about the big war between New York pizza and Chicago pizza?"

"Oh yeah, there's a huge schism," Segel responded.

Rudd continued: "I'd run and get some Chicago-style pizza and I'd want to take in a game. I'd like to walk through the Art Institute, and I'd like to do it with Joe Mantegna."

But don't let the man-chatter fool you: this was more than just testosterone-fueled hetero man-love.

"We didn't want anybody to think, 'Oh, it's a romantic comedy,'" director-writer John Hamburg said. "We just want you to be like, oh, you're watching a story of two friends."

> "It was the first movie I've ever done where there weren't huge plot movements. It had to be a very subtly crafted story about a relationship and the problems that arise."
> - Jason Segel

Segel was also keen to giving Hamburg just as much credit as the cast.

"I think it's a real testament to John's directing ability as well," Segel said. "It was the first movie I've ever done where there weren't huge plot movements. It had to be a very subtly crafted story about a relationship and the problems that arise. John just nailed it."

Rudd and Segel also don't consider themselves the new legends of comedy that Vanity Fair magazine proudly proclaims on the cover of the April issue.

"I think a 'new legend' is an oxymoron," Rudd said. "I think we're more of the John Legends of comedy."

Segel was quick to note more than just the yuks produced by him, Rudd, Jonah Hill and Seth Rogen in turn-of-the-century men's bathing suits with barrels around their waists.

"Has Paul ever looked better than in that photo?" Segel said. "And maybe it's the context. It's not exactly Paul Rudd and Tyson Beckford. You walk away from that photo thinking 'Wow, Paul Rudd is incredibly handsome.'"

I Love You, Man is currently in theaters

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Lady Wolves pick up first 2 wins

Jake Widlowski
Sports Editor

The Joliet Junior College women's softball team won their first conference game of the season in a doubleheader split against Rock Valley Community College on Apr. 4. They lost the opener 7-6, but won the second game 5-4. The win put the Lady Wolves record at 2-20, 1-3 in the N4C.

Kayla Hedrick, Kat Marren, Kim Breakey and Jill Englehart each had 2 hits in Game 2. Keli Dockstader had 3 RBIs and Lexi Binion added an RBI. Kaitlyn Harlow struck out 3 for the pitching win.

The Lady Wolves picked up their first win of the season against Moraine Valley Community College in game 1 of a doubleheader on Apr. 3, 3-1.

Breakey homered, one of her two hits, while Sarah Kessler doubled among her two hits with an RBI. Kat Marren also had two hits and Lacey Henderson pitched the victory.

JJC has struggled since the beginning of the season and the spring trip to Tennessee didn't help their cause. On Mar. 14 the Lady Wolves played their first games of the year against Kankakee Community College and lost both games by a combined score of 32-4. Two days later they were in Tennessee to start their spring trip which featured eight games in just four days.

The team was outmatched against each opponent and lost all their games, one by as many as 22 runs. The main difficulty for JJC has been that most of the teams that they played in Tennessee had more experience.

The Lady Wolves only have 11 current players on their roster with six of them playing in their first season of college level softball. The team has also been plagued by losing players to ineligibility and injuries.

Head coach Emily Marino is in her fourth season at the helm of the Lady Wolves and is seeing improvement in her team.

"We have struggled making the routine plays but our last few games we have shown tremendous improvement," said Marino. "Our biggest struggle has been trying to maintain a positive attitude especially when things are not going our way."

In a recent game against Sauk Valley Community College the Lady Wolves came within one run and only lost the game 4-3. A few days later the team lost to the College of DuPage by only three runs. The Lady Wolves are getting better and are focused on getting their first win as soon as possible.

Two players that have been influential in the improvements of the team have been sophomore Sarah Kessler who has a .270 batting average, and freshman Kaitlyn Harlow who has a 3.05 ERA.

JJC will need improvements from all their players if they would like to be successful in the N4C Conference this season.

"I believe this team will turn things around and finish strong," said Marino.

Photo by Mike DiNovo

Ericka Rodriguez delivers a pitch in a loss to the College of DuPage.

Photo by Mike DiNovo

Sophomore Kim Breakey slides safely into third against the College of DuPage.

Wolves prepare for conference play

Jake Widlowski
Sports Editor

The Joliet Junior college men's baseball team has flirted with a no-hitter three times so far this season. The latest was on Apr. 4 against Rock Valley Community College.

Wolves pitcher Ryan Bethard pitched a 1-hitter in the Wolves' 5-0 N4C victory over Rock Valley in the opener.

Bethard, who struck out five and stranded a walk, took a perfect game into the sixth and the no-hitter into the seventh. It was the third time a JJC pitcher has lost a no-hitter after 6 innings.

Minooka's Jon VanAsdlen, Plainfield Central's Tim Meyer and Romeoville's Ernesto Irizarry each singled twice for JJC. Sophomore outfielder Alex McCluskey hit a solo home run, his second of the year.

In game two, JJC fell 5-2. Bryan Johnson took the loss, giving up 11 hits and three earned runs in 6. 1 innings. He struck out five. Meyer singled twice and Tyler Thompson had a pair of singles with two RBIs.

The Wolves are home from the spring trip and eager to continue their successful season. Every spring JJC makes a trip south to play teams from Tennessee.

The games started during mid March and against the junior colleges from Tennessee, JJC struggled and ended up with a 0-5 record. However, after leaving Tennessee, JJC headed to St. Louis and stopped at another school along the way and ended their trip with a 4-5 record.

On Mar. 24 JJC ran into a tough opponent in Kankakee CC. The Wolves didn't get off to a fast start and gave up three early runs. The game eventually ended in a 5-0 loss for JJC.

"If we spot some runs to the other team early in the game we're going to be in trouble," said head coach Wayne King. "I don't know if we're the type of team that can be able to come back from three or four runs. We haven't been able to do it yet."

> "We're starting to swing the bats better and we are starting to move forward as a team."
> - Wayne King

JJC has rebounded very well since the loss to Kankakee. Their current record sits at 13-8, 1-1 in the N4C and they are currently ranked 6th in the NJCAA polls.

The Wolves are starting to heat up and on Apr. 1 they recorded a big win over Olive-Harvey College by a score of 13-1. Freshman pitcher Zach Petrick was very instrumental in the win. Through five innings he had not given up a hit, had eight strikeouts and only had one walk.

Despite the possibility of a no hitter, the JJC coaching staff had to pull him out because of a predetermined amount of innings that he was going to pitch. King wants to keep Petrick fresh for the upcoming conference games that the team has on their schedule.

The next day the Wolves also disposed of a pesky Morton College team 5-3. JJC jumped out to an early 3-0 lead but Morton came back and tied it up at three in the sixth inning. The Wolves were able to bounce back in the bottom of the seventh with two more runs which ended up being the winning runs.

Sophomore Andrew Trepel from Minooka had three hits and an RBI in the game and freshman Jim Glasgow from Plainfield South also added three hits with two RBIs.

Freshman Edgar Silva was the starting pitcher and he gave up three runs in six innings of work. Sophomore Steve Styck came in for relief and shut down Morton's bats. Styck recorded four strikeouts and didn't give up a hit in his three innings of work in which he got the win.

"We're starting to swing the bats better and we are starting to move forward as a team," said King.

The Wolves are meshing as a team at the perfect time. April is going to be a very busy month for them. Depending on weather, JJC will play on 21 out of the 30 days in the month.

Photo by Mike DiNovo

JJC's Zach Petrick delivers a pitch earlier in the season against Olive-Harvey College.

A JJC player slides head first into third base in a recent win over Olive-Harvey College.

Photo by Mike DiNovo

MALE ATHLETE OF THE ISSUE

BY JAKE WIDLOWSKI

Sophomore Alex McCluskey from Joliet Township High School knows how to drive in runs. McCluskey leads the men's baseball team in RBI's with 14 and has been instrumental in the current success of the team. He has 14 hits, 2 doubles, and .250 batting average on the young season. McCluskey also has experience as a sophomore and was part of the National Championship team from a season ago. Something that Coach King would like to see out of McCluskey is to take on a leadership role for the younger players on the team.

FEMALE ATHLETE OF THE ISSUE

Freshman Lacey Henderson is having a successful first season with the Lady Wolves softball team. She has played in all the games for JJC this season and has a .269 batting average. Henderson has 2 RBI's, 7 hits, and has scored 4 times. Not only can she hit, but Coach Marino also relies on Henderson to pitch. She has only given up 41 hits on the season and has struck out 6 en route to her 5.78 earned run average. Henderson is from South Newton Indiana.

Joliet Junior College

BLAZER

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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, 2009 VOLUME 81 ISSUE 10

Check out the summer movie preview on page 14

The JJC Volunteer Club and the Office of Student Activities sponsored the second Old Time Social of the year on April 17 in the cafeteria. The event raised funds for the Senior Medication Project of Senior Services Center of Will County. The Jay Mau Orchestra played music for the students and seniors to dance to and free ice cream was provided for all. To get a glimpse of this event, go to page 7.

News

Spring fling allows students to relax

Kelsie Lofdahl
Staff Writer

To end the school year with a "big bang," Joliet Junior College's OSA held their annual Spring Fling event. With finals being right around the corner this event brought relief to students and a chance to clear their head for four days. Spring Fling is an event which is held on the bridge at the end of every school year to allow students to kick back and enjoy the few weeks that are left.

"It's the last hurrah of the school year and it's giving students one more opportunity to enjoy the fun," said director of student activities & campus life, Pam Dilday.

On Monday, April 20, fudge puppies and tunes at noon were available for students walking by to get to class or those who wanted to sit down and enjoy a day of activity. For tunes at noon, Lance Valfre did an excellent job playing the piano. He did not need music to follow along, but just memorization. Valfre does not read music, but plays the piano by watching YouTube and listening to several songs.

On Tuesday, April 21, coming all the way from

See Spring page 5

JJC sponsors 1st 5k RunWalk

Shawn Faust
Co-Editor-In-Chief

Joliet Junior College is hosting its First Annual Dollars for Scholars 5K Run and Walk Saturday, May 2, with proceeds going towards book scholarships designated by the JJC Foundation. The scholarships will help students who are in need of purchasing textbooks for their classes.

"Illinois Dollars for Scholars is a program of Scholarship America and JJC is one of their collegiate partners. One of the program's goals is to encourage schools and community groups to raise money to help local students reach and achieve their educational goals. Dick Dystrup, a JJC trustee, is the executive director of Illinois Dollars for Scholars and invited JJC to participate in this fund-raising opportunity," said Betsy Oudenhoven, vice president of student development and organizer of the 5K event.

Dystrup will also be serving as the honorary race marshal at the event. Registration can be done online prior to the event or between 7:30 and 8:30 on the day of the event. Runners in the event are asked to donate $20 in the form of a registration fee. Students, faculty and community members may also sponsor a runner.

There are several levels of sponsorship based on how much is donated. The lowest level of sponsorship, the Sneaker Sponsor, must donate $25, and the highest level is the Platinum Sponsor who must donate at

See Run page 5

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Looking ahead to the future

EDITORIAL

As we here at the *Blazer* wrap up another year of amazing work—ok, maybe we're a little biased—we would like to thank all the loyal readers for their support. Some of us are moving on to bigger and better things, but most of us will be back next year to bring the news to you, the students and employees of this fine institution.

As always, those of us who will be back next year need help to keep this paper afloat. We have some openings for copy editors, and we can always use people to write articles about a wide variety of topics (and editors get paid, too). We will also need a layout person and an ad manager. No experience is necessary for any of the positions, but some is preferred.

What is it like, you may ask, to work for a student newspaper? The simple answer is that it's just like working for any other newspaper, except your main job is to cover the campus. But it's more than that.

There are many benefits to working for a student newspaper: You get to see your name in print, giving you bragging rights with your friends and family; you develop strong relationships with the staff that works to put out the newspaper; and you get to make the most out of your college experience (because if you come to JJC, or any school for that matter, and just go to class and then go home, you're likely to dread college).

Some of us came to college knowing what we wanted to do (some of us change our minds many times while we're in college) and others are using JJC to help them make that decision. That's where the *Blazer* and other campus organizations can play a role in helping you to make that decision.

So, we will be back in the fall, and we hope you are with us. If you like what you've seen from us, come and join us. If you think you can do better, come down and show us what you got. Either way you win, and so do we.

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The *Blazer* is a student-run publication. Opinions expressed in the *Blazer* do not necessarily reflect the views of the faculty or of the administration of Joliet Junior College.

What about Bob?

Support your local journalism adviser

Matt Sheehan
Staff Writer

COMMENTARY

On my list of short-term goals, I achieved one of those in the fall.

No, still haven't gone to the moon.

I haven't been able to tell off *George W. Bush in-person either.*

Heck, I'm still stuck at a part-time job.

That one thing I did accomplish was applying for and being accepted into the Chicago Film Critics Association. Roger Ebert, Richard Roeper, Dann Gire—all great writers still striving in the foundering newspaper industry and all considered peers of mine now that I am part of that illustrious group.

Plus, I get to watch movies with those guys!

But I bring with me also something that these fine producers of newsprint copy strive for: integrity, conviction and trust. There are no facades in that critics' screening room—what you get is what you see.

I bring that same unbiased objectivity, ethical sensibility and professionalism into the esteemed group.

And all of this integrity I learned from one person: Bob Marcink.

You see, Mr. Marcink is more than just a journalism teacher. He has a background in newspapers, both as a reporter and an editorial capacity. He's seen and done what any average reporter and copy editor is responsible for.

When I first started writing for the *Blazer* in the fall of 2001 (don't worry—I can count how many years I was there, too), I was in the mindset of doing what I'd wanted to do since seeing *Terminator 2*: become a visual effects artist. But, as a hobby, I enjoyed writing film reviews and thought I'd bring that to the *Blazer*.

Sure, my film tastes and criticisms back then were in the realm of *Rush Hour* was the funniest movie ever, next to the galaxy of *From Hell* being robbed come Oscar time.

> Marcink taught me the basic yet professional techniques and methods that a reporter should bring to the job, coupled with the aspects of great filmmaking and the ways about accomplishing fine cinema.

Then, I took the Introduction to Film Study class taught by Marcink. It was in that class I learned about script, cinematography, film theory, camera angles, formalism and realism, character, narrative—the tip of the iceberg of ingredients for movies, necessary for a complete piece of cinematic work. My reviews changed much from thereon.

A running joke between Bob and I was that after a year or two of writing for the Blazer, I'd not taken a single journalism class.

Once I did, the process of writing became a natural occurrence, flowing like struck oil waiting for years and years to be tapped into.

That aforementioned special effects career? Gone.

I was going into journalism.

And it was all because of Bob.

Marcink taught me the basic yet professional techniques and methods that a reporter should bring to the job, coupled with the aspects of great filmmaking and the ways about accomplishing fine cinema.

If it were not for Bob Marcink, I would not be where I am today.

So when I sit in that screening room, watching the latest in arthouse fare or the next summer tentpole blockbuster, I look around at these respected and revered writers of film criticism and I think to myself: I wish Bob could be here.

But you should all know that, in a way, he is and always will be part of the club.

Interested in getting some practical experience in journalism? Contact the Blazer at blazermail@jjc.edu

The Pop Culture Commentary with Shelley Holmgren

Life lessons from the rich & the famous: What not to do over the summer

As a self-titled "Pop Culture" commentator for the past eight months, I have learned several life lessons from those who live the life of the rich and the famous of things to do and to avoid at all costs.

With summer right around the corner, these lessons are imperative to avoiding humiliation, lawsuits, or jail time. And here I always thought that my obsession with celebrities was completely pointless – think again. Here are a list of Life Lessons to live by, courtesy of those who were dumb enough to ignore them. You're welcome.

Life Lesson #1: It might not be a good idea to beat up your girlfriend when she's as famous as you are (or ever).

Chris Brown made this lesson world-known when he attacked then-girlfriend Rihanna after a pre-Grammy party on Feb. 7 of this year. Although the lesson of this should be don't beat up a woman ever, maybe it should be don't take back your boyfriend after you press charges against him. But hey, that's just me.

Life Lesson #2: Don't attempt to adopt a child from a nation you can't even spell.

Thanks Madonna, but you might want to take care of the kids you have. You'll especially have to coddle Lourdes considering she inherited your line-backer shoulders. Poor her.

Life Lesson #3: Don't try to sell off the president-elect's senate seat and expect your hair to get you out of it.

Really, is any explanation needed for this? Blago, following the tradition of "intelligent" Illinois politicians (Mr. Obama being the exception), the laughing stock of politics finally got his when he was arrested in front of his home on Dec. 9 of last year. Come on – that's what you call karma, dude.

Life Lesson #4: Pants are always optional.

This lesson has been main stream by dance club goddess Lady Gaga and her consistent disregard for refusing to cover up her lower anatomy. From wearing sailor dresses to clothing items that are probably outlawed in at least four states, Ms. Gaga is the pioneer of recession chic. Lacking funds? Skip the pants – just be aware of public indecency charges.

Life Lesson #5: Don't carry around a firearm and expect not to get caught.

Of course, this lesson is brought to you by rap superstar T.I. and although his music is my guilty pleasure, his common sense skills are definitely lacking. Although federal weapons charges were brought upon him all the way back on Oct. 13, 2007, the rapper is soon to face the jail time that follows that charge. This just goes to show that although making an MTV special about atoning for your mistakes is great P.R., you're still going to have to sing the "Cell Block Tango." Perhaps he and Blago could do a duet?

And last, but most importantly, Life Lesson #6: Don't expect a mini-skirt, a ridiculous accent, trendy glasses, a $250,000 wardrobe budget and lipstick to win people over. It's just not going to happen.

Of course, none other than Sarah Palin herself could inspire me to write several commentaries focusing on little ole' her. I could say that I am a better person for the "exposure" to the Alaskan native, but really, I don't think I'll ever be able to look at an Eskimo the same way again… that is, if I ever see an Eskimo.

So there you go, I guarantee that although these lessons may not be useful in an everyday sense, you never know when you are going to be a hip hop superstar, a diva, or a politician. If any of these things occur to you in the next four months, you will be prepared.

Gardening Corner
with Nicole Gear

A Look at Lavender

Around 1652 C.E., Culpeper said of lavender, "This so well known, being an inhabitant in almost every garden, that it needeth no description." So, 2,500 years since our love affair with lavender began, what is it about lavender that keeps it a perennial favorite? Considering the plant for a moment reveals the source of our enchantment. Its silvery green foliage sends out gracefully nodding spires of florets anywhere from a pale lilac to a deep violet in color.

Give the plant a shake or pinch to release its unmistakable heady aroma. This alone ensures its presence in my garden! Add to this its use as a fragrant spice and its long-standing reputation for healing and the reason for its popularity is clear. The use of lavender is thought to have begun with the ancient Egyptians who used it for embalming, cosmetics and perfumes.

The ancient Romans used lavender extensively, both medicinally and as an antiseptic and antibacterial in bathing and washing. This is where the name lavender is believed to have come from, the Latin *lavare*--to wash. The first written record of the herb's healing abilities was recorded around 77 C.E. in *De Materia Medica*, written by the Greek physican, Dioscorides. He writes that lavender, when taken internally, relieves indigestion, headaches and sore throats.

> One of my favorite women of history, Queen Elizabeth I, adored lavender and swore by its medicinal properties.

He also notes that lavender applied to the skin cleanses and heals wounds, burns and skin aliments, something that it is still used for to this day. Lavender was used during The Great Plague in 17th century London. It served as an antibacterial as well as an effective insect repellent, as fleas were partly responsible for the transmitting of the disease.

It was also used to treat wounded soldiers during WWI when medicine and supplies were scarce. One of my favorite women of history, Queen Elizabeth I, adored lavender and swore by its medicinal properties. Even in the sometimes harsh climate of England, she demanded fresh lavender every day! Perhaps the oldest and best loved of the lavenders is *Lavandula angustifolia* (formerly *L. officinalis*) and also known as *L. vera*.

This species is often called English lavender as it was grown at the center of lavender production in Mitcham, England beginning around 1568 C.E. The oil of *L.angustifolia* is considered the best and of the highest quality. *L. latifolia* and *L. spiea* are often called spike lavender. This plant is coarser with broader leaves than *L. angustifolia*.

It produces three times the amount of oil, although of a lesser quality. It is sometimes listed as "spike oil." *L. stoechas* is commonly referred to as French lavender. It is a very attractive shrub that produces a flower with a terminal butterfly-like bract. This species is likely the lavender that the ancient Romans used.

Another species that is also called French lavender is *L. dentate*, which is grown more for its extensive bloom period than for its lesser quality oil or fragrance. You can see the importance of knowing the plant's Latin name, since many different species may share a common name. *Lavandula x intermedia* (or "lavendin") is a group of hybrid lavenders that are common in commercial use. The cultivar 'Provence' has become popular for culinary use as it's lower camphor and resin content results in a lighter flavor than the traditionally preferred *L. angustifolia*.

There are many delicious uses of lavender, both in sweets such as cookies, scones and ice cream as well as savory dishes such as chicken, beef or roasted potatoes (think *herbs de Provence*). You can even make your own lavender sugar by adding two tablespoons of fine ground dried lavender to one cup white sugar in a sealed container.

Let the mixture sit for a few weeks, shaking it occasionally and presto, your own lavender sugar to use wherever you'd use regular sugar, but buyer, beware! Only use pesticide-free plants, organically grown whenever possible. This goes for essential oil too, especially if you plan on ingesting it and better yet, grow your own! Lavender is an easy herb to grow, provided a few conditions are met: exposure to the sun and well-drained soil.

Like most herbs, full sun develops those delectable oils but many varieties will withstand some shade. The biggest killers of lavender are the root rotting diseases caused by poor drainage. For our heavy clay soil, it's best to mix in some sand and organic material to promote soil aeration. Lavender is beautiful in mass or as a walkway border where it can release its fragrance as people brush by. For container gardening, try planting in a large terracotta pot-- the color contrast is striking!

There is far more lavender history, lore and uses than could possible fit in this column. If you haven't already grow or purchase lavender plants and/or oils and enlighten yourself to the many possibilities of this gift from nature.

"At Benedictine University the students are on a first-name basis with the dean of students."

Attending a Catholic university steeped in traditional values – a search for God, living and working in community, a concern for each person and a tradition of hospitality – was important to Katherine Anne Thomas, the second of nine children from a tight-knit, deeply religious family. "I love the diversity and respect for others throughout campus," Thomas said. "One Ash Wednesday, I went to Mass early in the morning and later in the day someone asked me why I had ashes on my forehead. I loved being able to explain it, and to a Muslim nonetheless. Benedictine is very diverse, very welcoming."

She also enjoys the sense of community that pervades Benedictine. "As far as I'm aware, there is no other University where the students are on a first-name basis with the dean of students," Thomas said. "The most important factor to me, however, is that it is a Catholic university."

Katherine Anne Thomas – carrying the light that was passed on to her, and sharing it with others so that they may pass it on to future generations.

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PELL GRANT RECIPIENT'S WELCOME!

A 'Late Night' lesson on comedy

A former JJC student interns with Letterman and Colbert

by Molly McGuire

In July of 2007, my mother and I became obsessed with the HBO series *Six Feet Under*. As we were curled up on the couch watching the final episode, we witnessed one character question another's future plans. "Move to New York without a job?" Nate Fisher asked his sister. "Are you crazy?"

My mom and I turned to one another and laughed, but it wasn't funny. The next day I was moving to New York, without a job. Yes, I was crazy.

I ended up being pretty lucky. Within a few weeks of relocating, I landed a job as a page (think Kenneth from *30 Rock*) at the *Late Show with David Letterman*.

Having grown up on the Indiana man's sarcastic remarks and extremely dry humor, being employed by his production company was essentially the biggest thrill of my life.

Although I'd always known I wanted to go into television, I'd never witnessed the makings of a show firsthand. As a page I dealt more *with the audience* than with any other area of the show, yet being able to observe it daily was an invaluable experience.

My page position at *Letterman* was only for a year, although I was able to stretch it a bit further thanks to the 2007 writer's strike. I never took part in an internship while in college and figured it was an integral part of one's television career.

A *Letterman* colleague passed my resume along to the internship coordinator at *The Colbert Report* and my internship began on Jan. 5.

Although there is an obvious financial setback, I am learning more about the creative process than I did at *Letterman*. The two experiences combined had created a solid foundation for what I hope to be a successful future in the television industry.

While Letterman's guests surpass Colbert's in terms of celebrity, as an intern I am able to actually greet and converse with Stephen's guests, which is fascinating.

Letterman's taping was an hour, whereas *The Colbert Report* is thirty minutes in length. However, just as much work goes into the half hour program.

Stephen rehearses in full costume and makeup, two things Letterman didn't do when rehearsing. I gather their rehearsals have many purposes: to test out that night's bits on interns and staff, for Stephen to practice reading that night's script from the teleprompter, and for the camera and control room crew to practice filming for that evening. After rehearsal, Stephen and the execs go into rewrites.

In fact, the studio floor has a special room for rewrites. It is because of the rewrite process that the show tapes at slightly different times each evening.

I honestly believe the rewrites are essential to the *Report*. Changing small things that didn't work in rehearsal creates a tighter, funnier show in the end.

Letterman didn't do rewrites and now I think it may have hurt the show. I am able to learn an immense amount about the television industry simply by comparing my experiences at two different late night comedy programs.

I was fortunate enough to be able to relocate to New York in *order to pursue my* dream of working in television. Even if a cross-country move isn't in one's future, however, they can still progress forward in their career goals.

> The two experiences combined had created a solid foundation for what I hope to be a successful future in the television industry.

Simply by getting involved at local television stations, one can learn the ins and outs of television programming.

I also read the trade papers – mainly *Variety* and *The Hollywood Reporter* everyday and have since college.

By reading magazines or blogs related to one's chosen career, I think one can gain a solid understanding of the ins and outs of any industry.

Working for free can also help to move forward in one's preferred industry. Although my internship at *The Colbert Report* is unpaid, the experience has taught me a great deal about producing a successful comedy show.

Partaking in an unpaid internship shows potential employers how committed you are to your craft and that you are dedicated to continually learning about your chosen career.

It certainly isn't necessary to move from Joliet, Ill. to New York to pursue a career in the entertainment industry.

I am happy that I did, but I also know it is possible to attain success without relocating. By studying the ins and outs of one's chosen profession, and by working hard, anything is possible.

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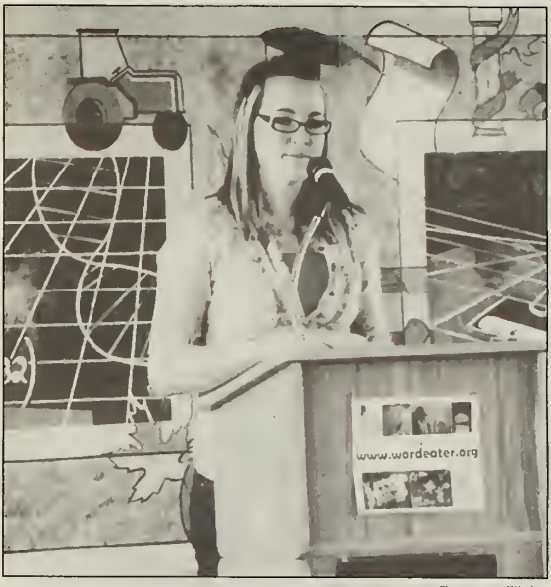

Photo courtesy of Wordeater

Student Alyssa Hughey reads aloud her poetry at a Wordeater sponsored event on April 15 located on the bridge.

Words of inspiration

JJC celebrates National Poetry Month with Wordeater poetry readings on the bridge

Katherine Boehle
Staff Writer

In celebration of April being National Poetry Month, Adam Heidenreich, English professor and also the advisor of the student creative arts magazine, *The Wordeater*, scheduled a poetry reading on the bridge on April 15.

After Heidenreich shared a piece of poetry that was written for National Poetry Month, English professor Bill Yarrow took the mic first. After introducing himself, he shared some original poetry that has been published in his very own book of poetry, *Wrench*, which is currently for sale in the JJC bookstore.

The second guest-speaker, JJC student Alyssa Hughey, went up next and read some of her recent poetry, some of which will be featured in the next issue of *The Wordeater*.

"I'm the type of girl who enjoys physics class and also wants to take an English class on *modernism*," Hughey said with a chuckle before reading her work. "But I do know that I love poetry."

> "I'm the type of girl who enjoys physics class and also wants to take an English class on *modernism*, but I do know that I love poetry."
> - Alyssa Hughey

After the two special guest speakers finished their poetry, eight students and faculty, including English professors Kristin LaTour and Heidenreich and Wordeater graphic-designer, Maria Mick, took advantage of the open-mic session to read their own poetry.

The Wordeater #120 will soon be hitting the stands and they will be holding a Wordeater premiere event on the bridge on May 7 from 5-7 p.m. Students' whose poetry and short stories were featured in the issue will be reading their work at the event along with art being displayed.

Also, if you are an artistic student, *The Wordeater* is still accepting submissions until May 1st for their *Spring E-Zine* issue. For more information, go to http://www.wordeater.org/.

National Poetry Month Spotlight

Poetry by Alyssa Hughey

I have seen you across the lawn
green blades grow from my
palm
I have seen your rowboats
ashore
full of wicker baskets
and the tell tale signs of war
I have seen underneath your
boats
holes worn through the sole
and all that I have seen has
been
the unraveling of kin

You show me full sets of teeth
set to music
ready to begin

you replaced my eyes with roses
and have never known
from which part to set sail

To lold your blankets
beneath white night skies
Is a burden
these sloping shoulders
let sink into the sea

Set sail, o foreign skin
turn away your face to the north
return never by here

I will never long for the days
docked ships brought drunken
sailors

to steal wine and
threadbare socks
for you I will never open a
cupboard
never kneel or bow
never strike a bargain
or keep thieves from your
cabin

You brought murderous
habits to these piers
I long for the day you were
never here
replace yourself with dream
one that ends with sleep
and leaves the waker
free.

JJC participates in controlled burn to preserve plant life on campus

Jeff Kopp
Staff Writer

Joliet Junior College participated in a controlled burn on March 16, which is a recurring event on campus. The prairie was burned in an effort to regenerate desirable native plant-life, killing the invasive species to make way for prosperous new growth.

"Depending on the condition of the prairie, a burn is usually needed every year or two," said Andy Neill, a professor on campus who oversees JJC's wildlife areas.

"Conducting regular prescribed burns on JJC's prairie and woodlands promotes the healthy vigorous growth of native plants while forcing back exotic non-native plants," said Neill. "This then becomes a more attractive habitat for native animals."

Timing is essential to the restoration process, according to Neill. With spring approaching soon, it was important to accomplish the burn and re-seeding of the prairie in time for the growing season.

Before settlement, Illinois was composed of over 22 million acres of prairie. Unfortunately, only 2,300 acres of that prairie remain today due to suburban spread, agriculture plowing and improper overgrazing

To give this some perspective, only less than 0.01 percent of Illinois's entire acreage is prairie and JJC is privileged enough to have its very own prairie on campus for all students to enjoy and study.

At first glance, and to an uneducated eye, the prairie might seem like an untamed field of weeds. In actuality, the prairie is a growing ecosystem that provides a home for many rare plants and animals seen nowhere else on the planet.

If left unprotected, future generations of students will no longer be able to study the history of their land firsthand and the tall grass prairies of Illinois may go the way of the dinosaur.

"JJC's prairie restoration is a small but significant way to conserve rare native plant and animal communities and demonstrate the fundamental cutting-edge techniques of habitat restoration and conservation to students and the community," said Neill. "There is no other outdoor learning laboratory like the one at JJC, in the world."

Spring from page 1

Chicago, JJC had Mission Improv Comedy Troops perform. *From getting students involved,* to making them laugh, this unique comedy act was a catch for everyone. As students and even faculty watched and enjoyed their performance, popcorn was available to all.

On Wednesday, April 22, students were given their chance to shine by performing karaoke. With different types of songs being sung, students continued to get drawn in to where they wanted to perform. Not only did Karaoke attract the students, but OSA was also giving out free hamburgers, cheeseburgers, veggie burgers, hotdogs, cookies, pop, and water.

This day was by far a big hit *for OSA because not only did* students get a chance to sing, but they also got a chance to sit down, eat whatever they preferred, and watch others belt out their songs.

On Thursday, April 23, to close off this event the same free food and drinks were offered, but with an addition of snow cones. Also, a Euchre tournament was held on the bridge.

From smiles, to laughter, to being involved, to enjoying themselves as students, Spring Fling was a perfect way to say goodbye to one school year and hello to another.

Run from page 1

least $1000.

Several major sponsors included member of the college foundation, Dick Pond Sports, Road Runner Sports and Saint Joseph Medical Center.

At the time this was written there were just under 100 participants registered for the race however, the number was expected to grow as it got closer to race day. Many of the registrants were community members with ties to the college.

"We hope the student and faculty participation continues to grow over the next week. Many faculty and staff have been generous enough to sponsor students for the race, which has made spots available for students to participate for free," said Oudenhoven.

A committee was created to help organize the 5K run and walk, which includes both faculty and staff throughout the college. No major problems have surfaced in the planning of the event due to a great collaboration amongst members of the committee.

"Rich McCarthy, our cross-country coach and Terry Bergin, a math instructor at JJC, are both runners themselves and have been especially instrumental in helping us to plan the event. The director of our foundation, Kristi Mulvey, has also been a tremendous help in securing assistance and donations so that we can dedicate as much of the proceeds as possible to scholarships," said Oudenhoven.

For those running in the event, awards will be given to the top three overall male and female winners of the race. The top three winners in each age/gender category of the 5K run will also receive awards. The walk is non-competitive. Complimentary snacks and refreshment will also be served after the race.

To register online, visit www.jjc.edu/info/5K.

MEN ON A MISSION

Comedy troupe Mission IMPROVable brings its brand of entertainment to JJC

Shelley Holmgren
Production Manager

On average, *Silence of the Lambs*, Michael Jackson, Stonehenge and the "Govinator" wouldn't be associated with one another. However, with the comedic talents of four brave men, the impossible becomes possible.

On April 21 on the center bridge, Chicago-based comedy troupe Mission IMPROVable had the JJC audience in pain from laughter. In the same vein as the popular sketch comedy show "Whose Line Is It Anyways," no topic or person was safe from being including in the several improv situations (or missions) that the group (or agents) performed.

Sponsored by the Office of Student Activities, the "agents" took audience suggestions to complete their "missions," no matter how bizarre they may be. A suggestion that almost took the "agents" by surprise was "bumble," said Mission IMPROVable member Adam Higgins.

"I believe that was the first time someone shouted that out," he said.

Alongside Higgins, performers Pat Kiely, Drew Korb and Frankie Cusimano channeled different personas for their performance, spanning from the atypical Class Nerd to yes, even Arnold "Govinator" Schwarzenegger. Members of Mission IMPROVable often take courses of study at the Improv Olympic Training Center and the Second City Conservatory in order to become full "agents."

> "It's a lot of living in hotel rooms, but it's definitely worth it."
> - Pat Kiely

Originating with six members, the improv company has since expanded to include fifteen members in their repertoire. With this year being the ten year anniversary for the company, this all-male, troupe tours across the country and has even traveled to Singapore to perform.

"It's a lot of living in hotel rooms, but it's definitely worth it," said Kiely.

Some of the mission scenarios included a three-headed spelling bee, where each member of the trio had to add a letter consecutively, and then proceed to format a sentence. Although "rhinocerous" isn't normally spelled with three "s", audience members responded to the performances with several rounds of laughter.

"It was really great," said JJC student Mo Shalabi. "I love the crowd interaction and the fact that they are really excited about what they are doing."

Although the group performs for a different audience every time, it's not the size but the involvement that counts, said Cusimano.

Even after the performance, the members of Mission IMPROVable continued to not take themselves too seriously.

"It was great to get top billing over the popcorn," said Korb.

To find out more about Mission IMPROVable and to see upcoming performances, go to the group's website at www.missionimprovable.com or see their Facebook or Myspace pages to get involved.

Photos by Shelley Holmgren

(Clockwise from top): "Agents" Adam Higgins (left) and Frankie Cusimano (right) work together to accomplish a "mission"; Kiely "collapses" on the ground during the performance; "Agent" Pat Kiely (right) and JJC student Kye Browning (left) do the laundry in an unconventional way during a "mission"

Student Government Scholarship Raffle Winner

For the third year in a row, Student Government conducted a Scholarship Raffle. A letter with raffle tickets and a postage paid return envelope was sent to first time, full and part time students from fall 2008 who were also registered for spring 2009. Tickets were sold for $5 a piece or $20 for 5. The scholarship funds itself through the raffle ticket sales. This year, a winner was drawn on Friday, April 17, 2009 by members of Student Government. The lucky winner of a $3,000 scholarship to be used in the 2009-2010 academic year is: Melissa McClintock of Joliet.

Magen Lutz and Alex Vasiliades, Executive Board members of Student Government with Scholarship raffle winner Melissa McClintock (middle). *Photo courtesy Office of Student Activities*

Old Time Social

Photos by Katherine Boehle

Terence Young

10 GREAT REASONS TO TRANSFER TO ELMHURST

1 "The campus is a very welcoming community. Everybody is very hospitable," says Terence Young. "Nobody has a problem being nice. I've met friends I'm going to have for the rest of my life."

2 The college guides have spoken: Elmhurst is among the best in the Midwest. We're "top tier" in *U.S. News* and *The Princeton Review* calls Elmhurst "a small college with a big bang."

3 Elmhurst looks like a college ought to look. The campus is a beautiful arboretum with trees from around the world. It covers 38 acres and has 25 buildings, each designed to support your academic and personal development.

4 You'll have your choice of more than 50 majors. Whether you know what your major will be or you're still exploring the possibilities, we'll provide you with an ideal environment to plan your future.

5 In over 100 student organizations, you'll get your chance to lead. Transfer students routinely hold top positions in our Student Government Association, award-winning student newspaper, and throughout campus life.

6 You don't have to live here to love it here. Our students like choices. More than 1000 choose to live on campus, and others choose to commute, including most transfer students. Either way, it's easy to meet people.

7 The transfer process is easy and personal. Our admission counselors will advise you on the course credits you'll need to make your transition to Elmhurst simple.

8 "You'll love the small college feel. You won't get lost in the crowd here, like you might at a big university," says Sofia De Lama. "The classes are personal, and every single class is taught by a faculty member, not a teaching assistant."

9 You can afford a great college education. And we'll help! Last year, we offered more than 300 scholarships to transfer students. More than 86 percent of our students receive financial aid.

10 You'll prepare for a life that counts. Our graduates get off to fast starts on great careers: within six months of graduation, 98 percent of the Class of 2007 had begun their careers in a job, graduate school, or both.

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JJC hosts annual art sale

Jim Sheldon
Co-Editor-in-Chief

The Elementary Teachers of Tomorrow Club sponsored the Early Childhood Center's art sale that was held April 22-23 on the bridge.

The art sale is in its third year and is held during the Week of the Young Child. The ECC's children along with Donna Nowdomski, the assistant coordinator of the ECC and four students who are members of the Elementary Teachers of Tomorrow Club, walked over to the bridge, art supplies in hand.

Some members of Student Parents Resolving Issues and Transcending in Education also helped with the event.

"The ECC views the children's art work as original, one of a kind, pieces of art," said Nowdomski. "One way we honor their work is by framing and displaying their art for others."

The art that is available for sale changes from year to year.

"Last year we featured some sculptors and mosaics however, this year we featured watercolors, marble painting and children's renditions of famous works of arts," said Nowdomski.

Some examples included Picasso's "Dance of the Youth" and "Don Quixote."

The sale is beneficial in a few ways according to Nowdomski.

"It gives the college and community an opportunity to view and purchase original works of art for a donation, in addition, the sale provides the youngest students at JJC the opportunity to build on their social skills as they begin to understand the use of trade and how to obtain goods and services."

Four students from the Elementary Teachers of Tomorrow Club helped with the sale.

"The students assisted with the selling of the art work and also helped the children figure out and count how much money they had and how much change was needed," said Erica Kwiatkowski-Egizio, one of the advisors of the Elementary Teachers of Tomorrow Club.

Elementary Teachers of Tomorrow Club president Lauren Kenaga along with vice-president Heather Hagberg, has been nominated for the Student Leader of the Year award. The annual award recognizes outstanding students who are involved with JJC activities as chosen by the Office of Student Activities staff.

The award will be given at a recognition event held on April 30. Egizio nominated them for the award.

All the proceeds from the art sale will go towards purchasing special year-end activities and gifts for the children.

If you were unable to attend the Art Sale and would like to have a private viewing of the art, make a contribution, or would like to donate used frames and mattes, please contact Donna Nowdomski, assistant coordinator in the Early Childhood Center at 815-280-2760.

Student trustee elected

Darren Newenhouse

Charlene Cudia
Staff Writer

Darren Newenhouse, a double major in psychology and biology, was recently elected to be Joliet Junior College's student trustee.

Newenhouse is a student who can also be classified as a volunteer as well. He is in many clubs and organizations on campus, including the JJC Volunteer Club, where he is president and co-founder, Community Outreach and Holistic Wellness. He also does fundraisers for charitable causes and organizes and promotes events.

"The main goal I want to accomplish is being one of the most easy to contact student trustees that we've had in a while," said Newenhouse.

According to his Student Trustee bio on jjc.edu, Newenhouse said that he wanted to be student trustee, because he wanted to use his experience in organizing and promoting events, and the contacts he's gained through that experience, to help students at JJC get their needs and concerns heard by JJC's Board of Trustees.

"I've donated a lot of my time, energy and efforts to quite a few causes," said Newenhouse. "And now I would like to direct some of those energies and efforts into helping improve JJC and representing the views and concerns of its students."

> "I've donated a lot of my time, energy and efforts to quite a few causes, and now I would like to direct some of those energies and efforts into helping improve JJC and representing the views and concerns of its students."
>
> -Darren Newenhouse

Also on his bio, he stated that he intends to be a visible and approachable trustee, with many ways of contacting him.

"I want to have set available office hours in the student government office for students to meet with me and talk about their concerns and desires for JJC," said Newenhouse.

He also stated that he does not feel that the student trustee should have any ulterior agenda or platform other than to give voice to the concerns and opinions of the JJC students they represent.

"I would really like to see a large, easily viable suggestion box made available on campus that I will check every day I'm at school, so students have multiple ways of getting involved with what is going on at JJC," said Newenhouse. "This is especially important now that we are moving into the initial phases of enacting JJC's Master Plan, which will make major changes to the school."

Success can only be measured by how well things are accomplished.

"I know my run as student trustee will be successful if I have been involved in a variety of JJC committees, if students feel motivated enough by my presence as student trustee to come share their concerns and desires for the school with me, and if I've done everything I can to fully represent these concerns and desires to the Board of Trustees."

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Preparing people to lead extraordinary lives

Potential students discover JJC

Jenna Miller
Staff Writer

On Saturday, April 4, 2009, the Office of Admissions held an open house giving potential students the opportunity to go on tours, participate in raffles and view presentations throughout the campus.

"Discover JJC is not just a surface tour of the school, but each academic department can hold their own open house all while meeting the faculty and staff," said recruitment specialist Rosa Salazar.

The preparation for Discover JJC began in January. Working with a planning committee of both students and teachers, the Office of Admissions were able to gain input, consider new suggestions and generate ideas that were diverse from last year's event. The amount of effort put in was well paid off with over 300 potential students in attendance.

"Discover JJC 2009 went perfectly," said Salazar. "Families were surprised and extremely happy at how big our campus is and how much variety we offer."

Along with all of the information, tours and presentations, the Office of Admissions did not forget to include the entertainment. During the duration of Discover JJC, students had the pleasure of listening to musicians, eating different types of food, and even had the chance to enter in a raffle to win an I-pod.

"Just by visiting the campus, students and parents can visually see the real campus experiences that Joliet Junior College has to offer," said the director of admissions and recruitment, Jennifer Kloberdanz.

With the successful turn out and excellent evaluations, the Office of Admissions has already begun to discuss next year's open house.

"A few ideas we generated about next year's event is possibly pushing for an earlier date and setting up an online lab for students," said Kloberdanz.

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ICCJA Competition:

Blazer wins 15 awards

The Blazer staff returned from the recent Illinois Community College Journalism Association Spring Conference with 15 awards in tow, 14 individual and one staff, including two first place finishes.

The conference was held at the President Abraham Lincoln Hotel and Conference Center in Springfield on April 9-10. It was sponsored by Lincoln Land Community College this spring and has been held annually for more than 30 years.

"They work very hard during the year, and it's always nice to see them recognized for their hard work," said Adviser Bob Marcink.

Production Manager Shelley Holmgren and staff writer Katherine Boehle took first place in Photo spread for the Feb. 4 photo coverage of karaoke on the bridge, and Holmgren took third place for photo spread along with photo editor Alicia Diamond for the Nov. 19 Tigger spread.

Holmgren also took home second place for computer graphics and second and third place for advertising design.

Photographer Mike DiNovo took first and third place in sports photo after taking first and second place in the same category last year. He won this year for a softball photo from April 30, 2008.

Sports Editor Jake Widlowski won second place in sports news and sports opinion. Co-editor-in-chief Jim Sheldon took home second place in news and an honorable mention in the editorial category.

Other award winners included Carlos Mendoza, who took second place in freehand cartoons; Matt Sheehan, who won honorable mention in arts; and Nicole Zwartz who won honorable mention in features.

"Considering this was my first year as one of the people in charge, I wasn't sure what to expect," said Co-editor-in-chief Jim Sheldon. "But everyone on the staff made my job easier and it's refreshing to be acknowledged for the work that we put in."

In Division II, which includes all tri-weekly and monthly newspapers with enrollment of more than 5,000 students, the *Blazer* won third place for the Mike Foster Overall Excellence Award.

Rock Valley Community College took first place in that category.

For weeklies/bi-weeklies, the College of DuPage won, topping Moraine Valley. Elgin Community College, advised by former JJC adjunct instructor Lori Clark, took first place for tri-weeklies/monthlies under 5,000 in enrollment.

"The conference is always a great experience for the staff members, and I'm very happy that they came home with so many individual awards, as well as the third-place overall," said Marcink.

Your Health: Swine flu caution spreads in U.S.

Kat Kozlowski
Production Manager

The news has been filled with continuing updates on the swine flu issue currently in the process of becoming a potential pandemic. So what exactly is this swine flu that people are buzzing about, who's at risk and what can we do to not only prevent it, but also treat it if we are unfortunate enough to come down with it?

We're all aware of the common flu, but what swine flu, or H1N1 is, most people aren't entirely familiar with. Swine flu has all of the same symptoms as the common flu we're all used to getting at one point in our lives or another.

The fever, cough, sore throat, body aches, headache, chills and fatigue, with occasional diarrhea and vomiting are what we're used to seeing in normal human flu cases. However, these symptoms are also common in those with the swine flu, making it more difficult to recognize without further testing and diagnosis.

Swine flu usually is spread between pigs, and most cases of the swine flu in humans are in people who are around pigs often and work with them. However, the Center for Disease Control has determined that this virus is contagious and is now beginning to spread from human to human. How easily the virus is passed from human to human is not currently understood.

The first cases of this were reported in late March to early April in Southern California and near San Antonio, Texas. The cases have recently spread to Kansas, New York and Ohio.

Currently the people who are at risk are those who have traveled to Mexico recently, and anyone who has come into contact with those who have either been infected or have been to Mexico or any of the reported states with any cases over the last month. This is not a case where a certain age group is susceptible to this illness, anyone can potentially be at risk, especially if this situation elevates.

A good way to prevent contracting the swine flu is to wash your hands after coughing or sneezing, avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth. Also, try to avoid close contact with sick people, and if you're sick yourself try to stay home and limit contact with other to prevent infecting others.

Those infected should be considered potentially contagious for up to seven days following the onset of the illness.

Currently there isn't a vaccination developed for the prevention of swine flu, however, there are a few antiviral drugs that can be used to treat swine flu. Antiviral drugs are prescription medications that fight against the flu virus, preventing it from reproducing in your body. The use of these drugs can make the illness milder and make you feel better quicker, while potentially preventing complications caused by the flu.

There's no need to be highly concerned just yet, but with news regarding swine flu developing by the day, there's no telling when to begin being concerned about this. As long as current cases remain isolated, this could potentially be put behind us as just another situation similar to the avian flu scare of 2006.

U.S. Human Cases of Swine Flu Infection

State	# of laboratory confirmed cases
California	7 cases
Kansas	2 cases
New York City	8 cases
Ohio	1 case
Texas	2 cases
TOTAL COUNT	**20 cases**

Graphic courtesy of the CDC

In children emergency warning signs that need urgent medical attention include:

Fast breathing or trouble breathing

Bluish skin color

Not drinking enough fluids

Not waking up or not interacting

Being so irritable that the child does not want to be held

Flu-like symptoms improve but then return with fever and worse cough

Fever with a rash

In adults, emergency warning signs that need urgent medical attention include:

Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath

Pain or pressure in the chest or abdomen

Sudden dizziness

Confusion

Severe or persistent vomiting

The Pillars of Fitness: Blasting your back

RJ Loebe
Staff Writer

I've noticed over the years that training the back region is often neglected. Not only is it vital for your training to have a proportioned body, it's healthy and also helps to see results in other areas. When training your chest you should do a few back exercises to get that whole region warmed up. I've seen a few bodybuilders do sets of bent over rows or pull ups to warm up the back which corresponds with your chest.

There are many different exercises when one wants to grow a very thick and cut up back. My favorite is the pull up. Remember, correct form is key. A lot of people tend to swing or not go down all the way, which takes away from the effect of the exercise. Instead of using all your back muscles, swinging and not going full length puts a lot of extra stress on the biceps.

Another great exercise for overall mass gain is the dead lift. Correct form is VITAL with this exercise. If one does it wrong or uses too much of their back; a slipped disk, pulled muscles and other injures could happen. It's a compound movement which uses a lot of different muscles to work correctly.

If you're not sure how to do it the right way, ask someone with knowledge and they will explain it to you. Keep your eyes looking up, feet shoulder width apart and use your legs, too many people use bad form and complain later of back pains.

> There really are only 3-4 compound movements you need in order for your back to grow: pull ups, dead lifts, bent over rows and T-bar Rows.

Dead lifts are not just a good back exercise; they also strengthen your whole "core" region. Further, it works your legs, arms, shoulders and calves. It's an excellent overall exercise if done correctly. Another great exercise is the bent over barbell row. A vital exercise in strengthening your traps and overall back, it's a mainstay in any back workout.

There really are only 3-4 compound movements you need in order for your back to grow: pull ups, dead lifts, bent over rows and T-bar Rows. T-Bar is the only one in which I haven't talked about yet. Simply put, you need a barbell, a bench and a towel.

Slide the towel under the bench and put barbell on towel. Add weight as you go, pull it towards your chest. Ask someone at the gym for a better understanding. It's a movement in which you have to have someone who understands it watching, in order to see if you are doing it correctly. An overall excellent exercise, I like to use bent over rows to burn out the muscles, meaning I like to reach failure with this particular exercise. As always, keep your reps between 6-10 for everything but dead lifts. Dead lifts are such a rigorous movement that it's only recommended to don 2-4 reps, with 3-4 heavy sets.

Here at the Blazer, we want to thank our readers for their ongoing support. We'll be back in the fall in the print edition, but we will also be online at jjc.edu/blazer, so you'll be able to check in for breaking news.

Got some spare change? Advertise in the Blazer! Email us at blazermail@jjc.edu

Three, Two... One Acts

Student directors and cast prepare for their opening night

Jonathan Boehle
Staff Writer

The latest one-act festival by the Joliet Junior College theatre director students is set to go on May 7 and 8.

The production is a collection of one act plays put on by students of the JJC class, Theatre 201 – Principles of Directing, a class taught by Clay Kirkland every spring semester. This year there will be 15 plays, a number that's about double the regular amount of students in this class.

The class has been around since the 1970s with a director's showcase, while the festival has been around 10 years. The festival gives a unique opportunity to the directing students compared to most colleges, according to Kirkland.

"[In] some directing programs you have to take several classes before you actually get to do a show, so I think it's great that our students have that chance with their very first directing class."

At the beginning of the semester, the class starts as more textbook-centered, teaching the students the different directing styles, how to do blocking on the stage, process of selecting a script and conducting auditions, along with some directing exercises.

Then about halfway into the semester the students will begin the process of putting on their own productions, holding auditions for their production then going into rehearsal shortly afterwards.

The plays have a wide range in tone and genre, from "The Hardy Boys and the Mystery of Where Babies Come From," a satire of the famous "Hardy Boys" book series directed by Mark Parker, to "The Blue Room," a romantic drama directed by David Laurich.

The experience of the directors in the JJC theatre department is also greatly varying. James Rio, director of the comedy-drama "The Beggar and the King," has taken two theatre classes at JJC before but has never done anything with the main productions.

Meanwhile, Helen Levy, director of "Deep in the Heart of Texas," is a retired university professor with a PhD in American Culture who first appeared in a production of a Tennessee Williams play about 50 years ago when JJC was at the Joliet Township High School and she appeared in "The Rimers of Eldritch" as Mary.

Most of the directors have a style of directing described by Laurich and Chris Walusek as "organic," where they will give suggestions to their actors of what to do, but with the hopes that the actors will be able to grow into the characters on their own.

"I don't want to mark the script and tell them, 'Oh, you have to move at this point and turn this degree to one side,' because then it just looks robotic," said Walusek, who directs the melodrama "A Matter of Husbands."

> "I don't want to mark the script and tell them, 'Oh, you have to move at this point and turn this degree to one side,' because then it just looks robotic."
> - Chris Walusek

As the directors get deeper into their production, they are still willing to go to their peers for help and advice.

"This is just to have that outside opinion because you may think it's going well, but that's just because you've seen it so many times but to keep it fresh you might just want to ask for another director's opinion," said Parker.

Kirkland himself prefers to keep out of the student's directing process as much as possible.

"It's their show…I want them to feel comfortable taking charge, and I want their actors to see them as the director of the show, so for me it's as hands off as I can get."

The productions are May 7 at 7:30 p.m. and May 8 at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., with different one-act plays at different performances. Tickets are free.

A look inside the One Act plays...

The festival will consist of three performances. The first performance, on Thursday, May 7 at 7:30 p.m., will feature "A Matter of Husbands," directed by Chris Walusek; "Sorry, Wrong Number," directed by Elenor Lape; "The Hardy Boys and the Mystery of Where Babies Come From," directed by Mark Parker; and "Notes From Afar," an independent study production from Adam Schmidt, who also wrote the script.

The second performance is on the following day, Friday, May 8 at 2 p.m., and will feature "Window of Opportunity," directed by Zuri Willis; "Deep in the Heart of Texas," directed by Helen Levy; "Smoke Scenes," directed by Paige Huthinson; "The Kill," directed by Nathan Borowski; and "The Beggar and the King," directed by James Rio.

The final performance will be later that night, and will feature "The Spotted Man," directed by Ryne Hanz; "Naomi in the Living Room," directed by Katie Balegno; "A Boring Play," directed by Ma Shalabi; "The Final Interrogation," directed by Mark Wietting; "The Blue Room," directed by David Laurich; and "Words, Words, Words," directed by Megan Coccomo

Silversun Pickups get in touch with dark side for 2nd album

Shelley Holmgren
Production Manager

Within seconds of hearing the leading vocals of Silversun Pickups' Brian Aubert, you are immediately struck with the uncanny resemblance to Smashing Pumpkins front man Billy Corgan. However, the passion and the focus is all Aubert's doing.

In *Swoon*, Silversun Pickups' second full-length album, the "Lazy Eye" rockers make the easy transition from downplayed cool to full on artistry. With the lineup of Brian Aubert on guitar and lead vocals, Nikki Monninger on bass and backup vocals, Chris Guanlao on drums, and Joe Lester on keyboards, the group has an undeniable chemistry that is evident in the promise of their sophomore effort.

Products of L.A.'s Silverlake Lounge music scene, Silversun Pickups find themselves with fellow alums including Rilo Kiley and Elliott Smith. They found fame in 2006 with their sleeper hit album *Carnavas*, producing hits like radio-favorite "Lazy Eye" and "Well Thought Out Twinkles."

The album opens with "There's No Secrets This Year," making its initial presence with guitar riffs bred straight from a Sonic Youth track. The song feels like a new beginning, almost like SSP's intent was to start fresh and start new with their sound. The change is recognizable, but delicate, as if the group isn't completely willing to throw out the formula that brought them so much initial acclaim.

And personally, I couldn't be happier – because there are too many sad examples of what happens when a band starts from scratch (see +44 and Angels & Airwaves in the aftermath of the Blink 182 split.)

"Panic Switch," the first official single off of the album, is a song that you will definitely want to keep on repeat to fully appreciate it. Monniger's bass line is the driving heartbeat of the melody, a smooth steady pulse building to the harrowing chorus. The song itself is Aubert's exploration to previously unchartered territory of the psychologically unstable. Although Silversun isn't instinctively known for their inspired lyrics, Aubert finds his true rhetoric in the lyrics of this song.

When he sings, "Inviting me inside, wanna burn skin and brand what once was mine." It's a haunting departure for their easy rolling "Lazy Eye" breakout hit from 2007.

> It's too easy to simply characterize Silversun as a grunge or indie group when their sound derives from a whole spectrum of musical influences.

If the title isn't an easy giveaway, "Draining" is a head-first dive into the true depths of melancholy. The lyrics are simple and organic, leaving the haunting melody to immerse you in the full feeling of isolation that the song delivers.

"Sort Of" is the track where Aubert's guitar talents are showcased. With layered chords building into a crescendo, the final product is the sensation of a wave taking over the song. The song is a jolt into awareness after the catatonic spell you're put under for the better part of this album.

Finalizing *Swoon* is "Surrounding," a perfect curtain call to the stage of cynical choruses that the group has built throughout the album. When Aubert sings, "Is it perfect in our little hell," it's the icing on the cake to reinforce the idea that this album is not an easy listen.

On the contrary, the song cries out like a critique of American culture and the pure obsession with it. Although a certain Ms. Paris Hilton wouldn't catch this criticism even if it presented itself as a $3,000 Prada bag, the song is the perfect amount of subtlety to leave the full disclosure of the meaning to the listener.

It's too easy to simply characterize Silversun as a grunge or indie group when their sound derives from a whole spectrum of musical influences. From the Smashing Pumpkins, from Sonic Youth, to even contemporary rockers Coheed and Cambria, Silversun Pickups has a formula perfected that insures that you will not be disappointed.

Overall, *Swoon* is the epitome of how not to fall in a sophomore slump – more guitars, more passion and an open mind to getting a little dark.

Swoon isn't the appropriate title – try *Weep, Pine, and Perish* for starters, hm? Unlike *Carnavas*' easy road trip soundtrack feel, I advise not to listen to this album while handling a motor vehicle. That is, unless you are open to the idea of some possible road rage. If so, happily proceed.

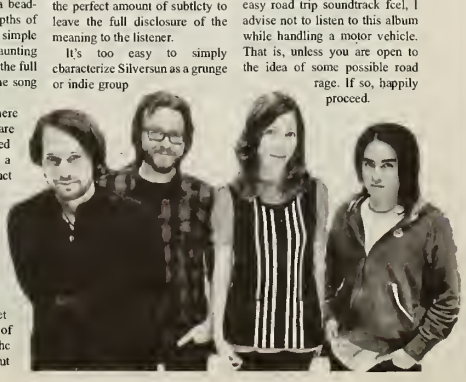

Photo courtesy of myspace.com/SilversunPickups

Natasha Mostert sheds 'Light' on readers with new novel

Katherine Boehle
Staff Writer

Natasha Mostert, a British paranormal novelist from London, writer of 2008's *Season of the Witch*, came out with her fifth novel on April 2, 2009, *Keeper of Light and Dust*.

Mia Lockhart, who seems like an average tattoo artist that lives in South London, holds a secret. Just like the many generations of women before her, she is a keeper. A woman warrior who protects and heals – Mia uses her power to protect a group of boxers who fight for titles.

Adrian Ashton, a genius chronobiologist and skilled martial artist, first enters Mia's life as a man who simply wants a tattoo, but soon becomes a true friend and Mia can't help but to be drawn to him.

However, Adrian turns out to be a modern-day vampire – one who doesn't hunt for blood, but for the chi (the vital energy that flows through the human body) of one's body, specifically fighters – that has targeted her true love. It comes to be a race against time and a fight to the death.

It was the title and cover that bad first drawn me to look at the inside flap for this book and I thought it sounded pretty interesting. Although I have read many paranormal and fantasy books, I had never read one that was anything like this book. It was a chance that I'm glad I took, because this has got to be one of the most engaging books that I have ever read.

I have read paranormal, fantasy, horror, suspense, thriller, science fiction, comedy-of-error, and even a romance novel, men and women writers alike, but never have I read a book that I would consider what I do this one – *sexy*. Something about the way that Mostert writes – the description, dialogue and action – makes the book *sexy*.

I think the characters of the book also contributed to the whole *sexy* factor. Mia Lockhart and Nick, the hero and heroine of the book, were extremely engaging and got me emotionally involved in the book and were indeed the sexiest characters that I've ever read in a book.

Something else that I think Mostert did a great job on was making the book feel very real. There are some fantasy/paranormal books that nag me because they escape from reality in a lot more ways than the obvious paranormal stuff.

> Although I have read many paranormal and fantasy books, I had never read one that was anything like this book.

Like in my *Fade* review a couple issues back, I had mentioned about the whole non-realistic dream issues. Mostert's novel has surreal stuff like "keepers" and people who can suck the chi from people without them knowing it, yet the novel feels so real like it could actually be happening.

The ending is also something that I have to compliment on. While reading it, I felt like it was a pretty predictable novel, however, I was proven wrong as I was finishing the pages of this book. It was an ending that I seriously could have *never* predicted, something that made the novel even better than I originally thought.

Natasha Mostert, I have to say, is a really talented writer, and this is a really original (and sexy) book. As I said, it was really engaging, and I hated every time I had to put it down (but it's close to the end of the semester and we all know that's when all the big stuff is due).

I think that any one that is interested in the martial arts or fighting, or just a good surreal novel, they should enjoy this book. This was the first novel that I have read from her collection, and I am really looking forward to reading more of her previous works over the summer.

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May 2009 Book Releases

Pygmy by Chuck Palahniuk

Pygmy by Chuck Palahniuk is a cultural satire about a group of young adults disguised as exchange students sent from a totalitarian state to live with American families and blend in, all the while planning an act of massive terrorism. American life is depicted through the eyes of "Pygmy," one of the students in the group.

Dead And Gone by Charlaine Harris

Charlaine Harris' beloved telepathic waitress, Sookie Stackhouse, returns in Dead and Gone, the ninth installment in Harris' Sookie Stackhouse vampire series. In Dead and Gone, the weres and shifters have finally decided to follow the lead of the undead and reveal their existence to the ordinary world. But when a were-panther is found dead in the parking lot of the bar where Sookie works, she feels compelled to investigate. As she does, she finds out about another supernatural group of beings who are preparing for war.

The Legend of Sigurd and Gudrun by J.R.R. Tolkien

The Legend of Sigurd and Gudrún was written by J.R.R. Tolkien before he wrote The Hobbit and The Lord of the Rings. This is the first time it is being published. In the book, Tolkien retells in English the epic Norse tales of Sigurd the Völsung and The Fall of the Niflungs. The book includes an introduction by Tolkien that was taken from one of his lectures on Norse literature, and also has commentary on the poems by Christopher Tolkien.

Photo and product description courtesy of Amazon.com

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Photo image courtesy of movieweb.com

New Model, Original Parts

4th film in *Fast & the Furious* franchise takes movie goers for a ride

Karla Rivera
Staff Writer

For those who are fans of the previous The Fast and the Furious movies, the latest is the best yet.

Fast and Furious is a roller coaster with hotter and faster tuned cars, imports and muscle racing from the streets of Los Angeles to the Mexican desert.

Fugitive Dominic Toretto (Vin Diesel) and FBI agent Brian O'Connor (Paul Walker) are searching for the same person but for different reasons.

Dominic is searching for David Park, a person connected to the one who murdered someone close to Dominic. Brian's investigation regarding drug trafficking is connected to David Park as well.

Since both are searching for the same enemy, they once again meet up in Los Angeles, their friendship weakened but having to work together. Added into the mix is Brian reuniting with ex-girlfriend—and Dominic's sister—Mia (Jordana Brewster).

The leader of the drug cartels, Ramon Campos that is distributing to the United States from Mexico is also responsible for some street racing in Los Angeles. Dominic and Brian will find revenge—by pushing the limits of what's possible behind the wheel.

Directed by Justin Lin, Fast and Furious made $72.5 million in its weekend debut when industry experts were expecting $45 million. So far this has been the best opening of 2009. *Fast and Furious* is a movie you should not miss. It is a movie for everyone since it's now my favorite!

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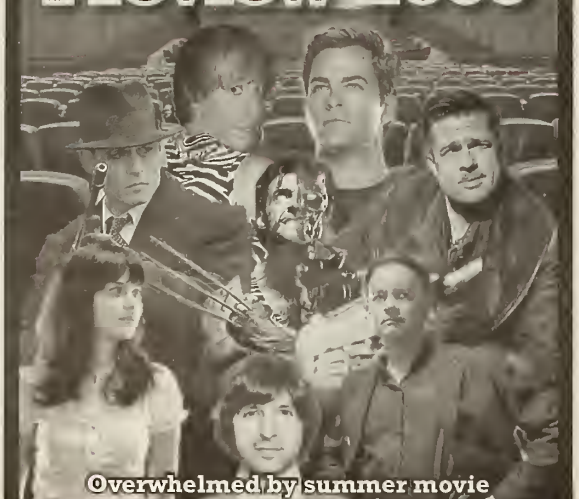
Summer Movie Preview 2009



Overwhelmed by summer movie madness? Here's a quick guide to some films you will want to look out for.

May

1 - X-men Origins: Wolverine
Stars: Hugh Jackman, Tayor Kitsch, Ryan Reynolds
8 - Star Trek
Stars: Chris Pine, Zachary Quino, Simon Pegg
15 - Angels & Demons
Stars: Tom Hanks, Ewan MacGregor
21 - Terminator: Salvation
Stars - Christian Bale, Josh Brolin

June

5 - Land of the Lost
Stars: Will Ferrell, Danny McBride
12 - The Proposal
Stars: Sandra Bullock, Ryan Reynolds
24 - Transformers 2: Revenge of the Fallen
Stars: Shia LeBeouf, Megan Fox

July

1 - Public Enemies
Stars: Johnny Depp, Christian Bale, Marion Cotillard
10 - Bruno
Stars: Sacha Baron Cohen
17 - Harry Potter and the Half Blood Prince
Stars: Daniel Radcliffe. Rupert Grint, Emma Watson
24 - (500) Days of Summer
Stars - Zoey Deschanel, Joseph Gordon-Levitt

Aug

14 - Taking Woodstock
Stars: Demetri Martin, Emile Hirsch, Paul Dano
21 - Inglorious Basterds
Stars: Brad Pitt, Diane Kruger, Simon Pegg

Lady Wolves finish season strong

Jake Widlowski
Sports Editor

The Lady Wolves softball team has made lots of improvements over the past few weeks. After starting the season 0-19 they have recently gained some consistency and have won 11 out of their last 19 games, improving their record to 11-27 overall.

The beginning of the conference schedule was when JJC started to put together some wins. Their best effort of the season so far was on April 18 when they completed a doubleheader sweep over Harper College winning the first game 16-0 and the second game 12-0.

Five days later the team split a doubleheader against Rock Valley including a come from behind win in the bottom of the seventh inning to improve their conference record to 8-6.

Head coach Emily Marino has been very pleased with the improvements in the team over the past month.

"Their attitudes have gotten more positive lately," said Marino. "I think once you start winning it's contagious just like losing is. So when you get a couple wins it's easy to get on a roll."

Sophomore centerfielder Kim Breakey has been the top hitter for JJC this season hatting .351 with 19 RBIs. Sarah Kessler a sophomore from Plainfield has also done well at the plate this year with a .298 average and 16 RBIs.

Kayla Hedrick has stepped in nicely at catcher this season for the Lady Wolves. Hedrick was thrown into the starting position after the Lady Wolves lost their old catcher to a season ending injury.

"Kayla has continued to grow and improve. She's stepped in nicely for us at catcher," said Marino.

JJC would have to win their regional tournament in order to advance to the national tournament. The Region IV Tournament will take place at the campus of Rock Valley in Rockford on May 1 and 2.

The Lady Wolves would have to get through some quality opponents like the College of DuPage (the team that has won the Region IV tournament the past 11 seasons) and Rock Valley in order to get to Rochester.

"This year is anyone's year to win the tournament. Rock Valley and DuPage are strong but I think we're right there with them," Marino said.

Photo by Mike DiNovo

A JJC hitter makes contact in a recent game against College of DuPage.

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Wolves prepare for postseason run

Jake Widlowski
Sports Editor

The men's baseball team here at Joliet Junior College has one thing on their minds as they enter the last month of the season, winning as many games as possible.

The Wolves (26-11, 11-1 N4C) have only a handful of games left in the regular season before the post season gets underway. JJC is currently ranked #2 in the nation according to the NJCAA polls.

"We've discussed about the remaining games the importance of staying focused and wanting to win as many as we can," said head coach Wayne King.

While JJC would like to keep winning and improving their record, King also mentioned that the lineup and defensive strategies might need some tweaking before the regular season is over.

"We are still looking to answer some questions that still remain. We need to get a stable batting order still," said King. "I am also looking at guys in different spots. We really just try to worry about ourselves."

Throughout the season the freshmen have been getting different amounts of playing time depending on their performance. However, there are a few freshmen that have already solidified their spot in the lineup based on their solid play.

Dan Campbell who is hitting .440 with 17 RBIs, Tim Meyer who has a .337 average and Patrick Murray who has a 2-1 record on the mound with a 2.30 ERA are all freshmen that have made a significant impact on the Wolves so far this season.

Ace starter Zach Petrick has stood out the most amongst the freshmen class. Petrick has a 7-1 record with a 1.63 ERA and 70 strikeouts throughout his 55 innings pitched.

"He has struggled a little with mechanics, but we are really pleased with how he is throwing the ball so far. He is definitely our number one guy on the hill," said King.

> "We've discussed about the remaining games the importance of staying focused and wanting to win as many as we can."
> -Wayne King

The Wolves also have sophomores that can step up such as Andrew Trepel who is second on the team in hitting with a .421 batting average, 10 doubles, and 34 RBIs and leadoff hitter Brett Velon has a .326 average with 14 RBIs.

JJC's last home game is also the last game of the regular season on Sunday May 3 against Highland Community College.

The Region IV Tournament is just four days later on the campus of Rock Valley Community College.

The winner of the Region IV Tournament will advance to the NJCAA Division III World Series in Tyler, Texas. The Wolves won the National Championship last season.

Photo by Mike DiNovo

JJC's Tom Kimbro delivers a pitch in a game earlier this season.

Upcoming Wolves games:

THURSDAY APRIL 30 MORTON COLLEGE AWAY 3:00 PM
FRIDAY MAY 1 PRAIRIE STATE COLLEGE AWAY 3:00 PM
SATURDAY MAY 2 MADISON AREA TECH. COLLEGE AWAY 12:00 PM

MALE ATHLETE OF THE ISSUE

Freshman Dan Campbell has been a menace for opposing pitchers all season long. Campbell is hitting a team leading .440 with 33 hits, 3 triples and 17 RBIs. On April 15 Campbell was named the Division III National Player of the Week by the NJCAA. Campbell was on a tear at the plate hitting .765 with 9 RBIs during the previous week which allowed him to get the award.

FEMALE ATHLETE OF THE ISSUE

By Jake Widlowski

Sophomore Kim Breakey leads the softball team in almost all hitting categories for the season. She has 33 hits, 7 doubles, 5 triples, 25 runs, and 19 RBIs on the year. She also has a team leading .351 batting average. "Kim has been a tremendous leader for us defensively on the field, and at the plate she is doing really well and has picked up some key hits," said head coach Emily Marino.

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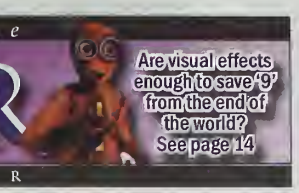
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2009 VOLUME 82 ISSUE 1



Are visual effects enough to save '9' from the end of the world? See page 14

JJC Job Fair provides options in a declining economy

REBECCA GOMOLKA

Staff Writer

On Friday, Sept. 18, Joliet Junior College held a Part-time/Seasonal Job Fair for the benefit of the students attending the college. The event started at 10 a.m. and lasted until 1 p.m.

There were many businesses that were in attendance for the day's event. Establishments ranged from places like TCF Bank to clothing stores such as American Eagle. The businesses were lined up and down the pathway of the C-Concourse and were easily accessible to those heading to class or students that were preparing to leave.

In today's economy, the job market is diminishing with each passing day. While the government is trying to adjust to this, the unemployed population is finding it more and more difficult to find a way to make ends meet. While that fact is making those preparing to graduate terrified, it's also

See Fair page 5

Help Wanted?

Graphic by Shelley Holmgren

With its new online tutoring program, JJC looks to ensure success for all students

By Jim Sheldon

Joliet Junior College has many centers that can provide tutoring to their students. For the first time, however, students on campus can receive online tutoring.

"The program, Smart Thinking, which is the online tutoring, isn't brand new to the campus," said Stephanie Braun, Academic Skills Center Manager. "The campus offered it to their telecourse and online students if the instructor was interested but by giving me the hours at the Academic Skills Center, I can open it up to everybody on campus."

One of the cool features that the program offers is 24/7 online math assistance where students can log on and instantly speak with someone live. They can get help with Basic Math, Algebra, Geometry, Trigonometry and Calculus.

When a student logs on, they can connect with an e-structor live if one is available for the subject that they want, they can schedule an appointment if they don't have time to talk with someone then or they can submit a question about a particular subject and get a response

See Tutor page 4

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A place where students can be themselves

SHAWN FAUST

Co-Editor-In-Chief

Beginning this semester, Joliet Junior College will be featuring the new Safe Zone program, a program designed to provide all students, but especially those of the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender population, with a place where they can freely be themselves.

The Safe Zone program was originally formed by a committee out of the Diversity Advisory Council led by Joyce Coleman and Karl Brooks. Spearheading the development of the program here at JJC is a committee comprised of the Office of Student Activities, the Office of Multicultural Student Affairs, Student Accommodations and Resources, Counseling, faculty members, and representatives of Student Government.

About 55 of JJC's staff members, located all over campus, volunteered to be

See Zone page 5

JJC tries to move on after death of trustee

BRIAN KRUPA

Staff Writer

Joliet Junior College trustee Dick Dystrup lost his battle with pulmonary fibrosis Aug. 28 at the University of Chicago Medical Center. He was sixty-six years old. In 1999, Dystrup was elected to the Joliet Junior College board of trustees. Serving as the board chair in 2002-2003, Dystrup was once again reelected for his second term in 2005.

"We will miss Trustee Dystrup's spirited support of the college and its work and his passion and enthusiasm for JJC's students, faculty and staff."

DR. GENA PROULX,
JOLIET JUNIOR COLLEGE PRESIDENT

With an abundance of school spirit, Dick Dystrup "loved the Wolves and was known to be present at many college athletic events. We will miss Trustee Dystrup's spirited support of the college and its work and his passion and enthusiasm for JJC's students, faculty and staff," said Dr. Gena Proulx, Joliet Junior College president.

Originally from Lemont, Dystrup moved to Lockport in the 3rd grade. After going to Lockport Township High School, Dystrup eventually went back and not only taught at LTHS but also coached there as well. While still teaching full time, he served as mayor of Lockport from 1993 to 1997. He later retired from teaching after 33 years.

See Trustee page 5

DICK DYSTRUP

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EDITORIAL

Tutoring is service students should take advantage of

In the article about online tutoring that begins on the front page and continues on page 4, we talk about all the different tutoring services that are available on campus; the Academic Skills Center, the Writing Center, the Math Learning Center, the Learning English for Academic Purposes Center (LEAP), the Speaking Center, Project Achieve and StAR.

All of these are explained in more detail in the article. These services should be utilized by students as should the online tutoring which is the newest way that students can get any help that they need.

Students don't use these services nearly enough and they can be very valuable to them. It couldn't hurt to try out these services and see if they can help you get better grades or understand an assignment.

There's nothing wrong with asking for help if you're struggling with something. Students are sometimes hesitant to ask for help in class or think that the instructor has many students and doesn't have time for me. This is where the tutoring services come in, both online and on campus. Students should use these services as often as needed.

Clearing up the costly parking issue on campus

As we're sure all of you have noticed it's a trick to find a decent parking space this year. And if you are able to find one near your classes, you shouldn't have to worry if you can park there.

This is an issue in South Lot 2 or the D Building Lot. The front half of the lot is now faculty/staff parking and the back half is student parking. The problem comes with the first row of the back half of the lot.

There are signs posted by the row that say faculty parking beyond this point which would make one think that the first row is for students and anything beyond that point is for faculty/staff.

There have been days when students have parked there and everything has been fine. There have also been days when the police have written tickets to those cars that are parked there.

We understand that there's a crunch this year but there are times when people park where they think it's legal and then they come out to a ticket, which is a pleasant surprise. This seems to be a little confusing. We don't care whether that row is faculty/staff parking or student parking, we just would like to know so we don't get ticketed.

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The Pop Culture Commentary WITH SHELLEY HOLMGREN

Oh Kanye, how could you be so heartless?

Every year, MTV likes to push the envelope with their biggest draw: the Video Music Awards. This is a ceremony that has given us such pop culture legacies as the Madonna/ Britney kiss, Diana Ross "feeling up" Lil' Kim, and even the King of Pop lip locking with Lisa Marie Presley.

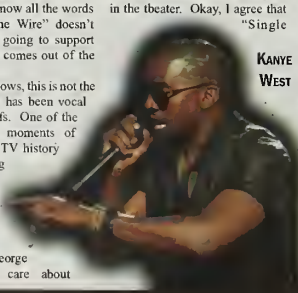
Surprisingly, this year it was not Russell Brand's mouth that was caught in the crossfire of VMA drama – it's Kanye West.

Thanks to repeats of the show and video access on YouTube, everybody in the free world has now seen the infamous clip of Kanye putting more than his two cents on the award show. When country music singer Taylor Swift was announced the winner of Best Female Video, surprise and applause filled Radio City Hall.

Against fellow female greats such as Katy Perry, Pink, Britney Spears and Beyonce, Swift noted in a pre-award show interview that she didn't expect to win anything that night. In a moment that should have been full of tears and shock for the 19-year-old singer, it was instead reigned upon by hip-hop's biggest mouth, Kanye West.

Now don't get me wrong – I love Kanye's music from "College Dropout" to "808's and Heartbreak," all are in heavy circulation on my iPod. However, just because I know all the words to "Through the Wire" doesn't mean that I'm going to support everything that comes out of the man's mouth.

As history shows, this is not the first time West has been vocal about his beliefs. One of the most eminent moments of quite possibly TV history was during the 2005 Hurricane Katrina telecast when he spoke these words: "George Bush doesn't care about black people."



KANYE WEST

What made this whole scenario even more precious was Mike Myers' "deer in the headlights" response. Ex-squeeze me, baking powder? Wayne's World reference anyone?

Back to the present, when Kanye declared the now infamous phrase, "Beyonce had the best music video of all time," chaos erupted in the theater. Okay, I agree that "Single Ladies" was a fantastic video – anything that would inspire Andy Sandberg to dance in tights is alright in my book.

Although not always a fan of Beyonce's music, I must give it up for the woman who actually was civilized in the situation. At the end of the evening when Sasha Fierce herself won the coveted Video of the Year award, instead of savoring the moment for herself, she so gratuitously shared it with Taylor Swift. That is exactly how a real "Diva" should behave.

So to Mr. West, I say next time you want to be showered in attention, make like Lady Gaga and have blood hemorrhage from your chest during a performance and adorn an Eskimo hat. What? Someone has to do it. Also, in the future when you want to ruin your publicist's life, remember these wise words; Insert foot in mouth. Yo Flava Flav, I'm really happy for you, I'll let

Interested in getting some practical experience in journalism? Contact the Blazer at blazermail@jjc.edu

GARDENING CORNER with Nicole Gear

Making changes for fall

It's that time of year again: school is back in session and every Tom, Dick and Harry is selling pots of mums. Yes, fall is upon us. It seems that the gardens we so attentively kept during the bright, cheery days of summer's climax tend to get overlooked and forgotten about this time of the year.

However, fall is a growing season in its own right, for with it come conditions that are ideal for planting. Besides the multitude of fall-planted bulbs, many perennials benefit from being planted in the early fall as well.

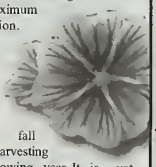
The cooler air means less transpiration and less stress while the warmer soil temperatures promote root growth. Amazingly, most roots will continue to grow until the ground is frozen.

Many perennials, especially the spring-bloomers, will be more vigorous and heavier blooming when planted in the fall. In fact, it is not uncommon for a fall-planted specimen to be twice the size of the same specimen planted the following spring! This is also the ideal time to divide and transplant perennials that are overgrown.

Some examples of plants that benefit from fall planting are peonies, coral bells, lilies and poppies. Many deciduous trees and shrubs can also be planted at this time of year. As these woody plants go dormant above the soil surface, underground, their roots are still growing vigorously. Exceptions include trees that are slow to root such as birch, magnolia, red maple, hemlock, ginko and willow.

Fall is the best time to reseed cool-season lawns as there is less competition from annual weed grasses and the warm soil is ideal for germination. Cool season crops such as broccoli and lettuce and root vegetables such as carrots, beets and parsnips are reputed to have the best flavor when grown in fall instead of spring.

This is probably because these vegetables are less likely to bolt and become bitter in the cooler weather. Extend your growing season with cold frames or floating row covers for maximum production.



Garlic also does best when planted in the fall for harvesting the following year. It is yet another plant that will produce twice as much with the head-start planting in fall.

There are some things to keep in mind for successful fall planting. Not all plants benefit from fall planting. Perennials and trees that are not quickly established or slow to root would not be appropriate to plant at this time of year. Although there tends to be more precipitation in the fall, it may still be necessary to water regularly.

We have a perfect opportunity in fall to assess our gardens and even get a head start in our planting for next year.

It is recommended to water as necessary until the ground freezes. Also, be sure to mulch well around the plants for moisture retention and to help prevent frost heaving.

Besides being beneficial to many plants, fall planting can be advantageous to us humans as well.

Many nurseries and garden centers will reduce their prices to clear out as much inventory as possible before winter. There are some great deals to be had, just be sure to inspect the plant closely (roots included) to ensure that it is healthy.

Another advantage to fall planting is that we have a fresh picture of our gardens. What worked and what didn't? Are there spots that "need something"?

We have a perfect opportunity in fall to assess our gardens and even get a head start in our planting for next year. Besides, do we really need another reason to be outside to witness the beautiful transformation of fall? I think not!

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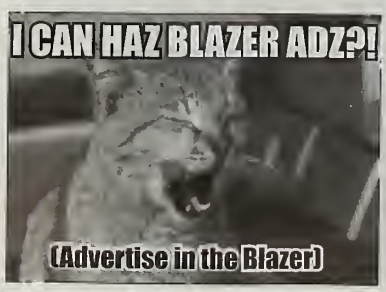

Photo by Taylor Cadie

Maitlin McCullum (right) gets "Inked" by the Totally Tattoo's artist, Keevan Vanderker (left).

New activity Totally Tattoos gives students a chance to get 'inked' on the bridge

TAYLOR CADIE
Staff Writer

What is better than hot coffee at 11 o'clock in the morning and a turkey sandwich at four? A Monster energy drink or no class? How about some karaoke, popcorn and tattoos? Yes, that was the morning boost you got on Wed., Sept. 9. *This was the day that* Joliet Junior College held its free, monthly karaoke and its new attraction, Totally Tattoos, on the South and Center Bridge.

Pam Dilday, director of Student Activities, is one of the people behind all the activities at JJC.

"Totally Tattoos are airbrushed tattoos and we've never had the tattoos since I've been director," said Dilday.

According to Dilday, the karaoke is a big hit and a good opportunity for students to have fun between classes, especially if they are a few hours apart.

What is JJC's purpose for having these events?

"The goal is to get students involved while attending college. Students are more likely to keep attending and get their degrees," said Dilday.

It was slow when the event started, but as the noon hour approached, the Center Bridge was jam-packed with students ready to sing their lungs out. The line for Totally Tattoos was almost to the end of the South Bridge.

"The karaoke was really exciting and the tattoos added some flavor. It brought attention to all the singers and it boosted the self-esteem of many students," said Katie Coffman, a karaoke participant.

> *"[The tattoos] brought attention to all the singers and it boosted the self-esteem of many students."*
> KATIE COFFMAN

All-in-all, the event was a great success and a fun time to kill time according to Dilday. Who knew good (and goofy) singers and airbrushed tattoos were so popular to the JJC community.

News Briefs

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

The Knights of Columbus will host a pancake breakfast at Berst Center, 180 S. Kankakee St. in Coal City on Sunday, Sept. 27, from 7 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The KCs will serve pancakes, scrambled eggs, carved ham, bacon, sausage gravy and biscuits, egg and cheese casserole, hashbrown casserole, French toast casserole, hot butter, syrup, summer berry topping, fresh baked pastries, orange juice, coffee and milk. Carry-outs will be available. Proceeds from the event will benefit the Unborn Memorial project. Donations will be accepted. For more information call Greg at 815 347-3555.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11

A living rosary will be said in memory of Knights of Columbus State Chaplin Bishop Kaffer on Sunday, Oct. 11, at 3 p.m., at the Bishop McNamara High School football field, 550 W. Brookmont Blvd. in Kankakee. Participants will gather in the school's gymnasium if the weather is inclement. Refreshments will be served. The public is invited. For more information call Jim L'Ecuyer at 815-933-4926.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14TH

Knights of Columbus Council 1574 will host a blood drive and free spaghetti dinner from 3 to 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 14, at the Berst Center, 180 S. Kankakee St.in Coal City

Blood donors will be served pasta with meat sauce, salad, garlic bread and dessert along with a coupon for a free pint of Ben & Jerry ice cream. Call Bill at 815-671-7665 for a preferred time to donate blood. Walk-ins will also be welcomed. Photo identification will be required of all donors. For more information call Greg at 815 347-3555.

Tutor continued

within 24 hours.

You can also submit a writing sample and you will get a response with some feedback within 24 hours. It can be for any subject. Every time you work with an instructor, everything is archived so you can go back and print out all the dialogue.

"The tutors are under a different program, think like Sylvan, and they all have their Master's degrees or PhDs and then they work various hours," said Braun.

If a student wants to gain online tutoring, they can do that for free by stopping by and seeing Braun in her office, by calling or emailing or they can see Braun's secretary, Leslie Kolesar, and she can add them to the Academic Skills Center online tutoring community group.

"The good thing about a community group is that it doesn't expire so when someone is signed up for online tutoring, they're going to have access to it this semester, next semester until my hours run out or expire," said Braun.

There are places on campus that students can go for tutoring. There's Student Accommodations and Resources or StAR which helps students with disabilities, students with limited English for academic purposes and for career and Technical Education majors who are having academic difficulties.

There's also Project Achieve which helps first generation students, low income students and students with disabilities. There are also centers on campus that can help students. The Speaking Center in K-2004 helps students with the development of presentations, outlines, research and practicing presentations.

There is also the Academic Skills Center, the Learning English for Academic Purposes Center (LEAP), the Math Learning Center and the Writing Center.

The Academic Skills Center is located in J-2013 and is open Monday-Thursday from 7:30 a.m. -7:30 p.m., Friday from 7:30-4:30 p.m. and Saturday from 8-noon. There is peer tutoring and professional tutoring available and it is highly recommended that you make an appointment.

The LEAP Center is located in B-2003 and is open Tuesday and Thursday from 8-3 p.m. and Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoons. The center is designed for students who are non-native English speakers. There is professional tutoring available and an appointment is required.

The Math Learning Center is located in C-2019 and is open Mondays and Fridays from 8-2:30 p.m. and Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 8-2:30 p.m. and from 5-7:30 p.m. There is peer tutoring and professional tutoring available and no appointment is required.

The Writing Center is located in C-2001 and is open Mondays and Tuesdays from 9-3 p.m., Wednesday and Thursday from 9-6 p.m. and Friday from 9-1 p.m. There is professional tutoring available and each student is limited to two 30 minute sessions in a week, additional sessions require the coordinator's permission. It is highly recommended that you make an appointment.

Students can go to any of these for help on campus and they now can go online for tutoring off-campus.

"It's a good first step and we'll have to see how the program works this year," said Braun. "I'm surveying all my students so we'll have an idea of how successful the program is."

Center Name	Academic Skills Center	Learning English for Academic Purposes (LEAP) Center	Math Learning Center	Writing Center
Services	ACT COMPASS, CLEP, and Make-up Testing; In-person and online tutoring; ACT COMPASS Review Sessions; Tutoring subjects include Accounting, Anthropology, Art, Astronomy, Biology, Business, Business Law, CADD, Chemistry, Criminal Justice, Economics, EEAS, EET, English, Geography, GSD, History, Interior Design, Italian, HVAC, Math, Music, Nursing, PCIT, Philosophy, Physics, Psychology, Reading, Sociology, Spanish, and Theater	This is a professional tutorial service on the main campus specifically designed for students who are non-native English speakers. The Center specializes in assistance with English grammar, writing, reading, speaking and listening, though also offers assistance in daily assignments and exam preparation. Detailed assignment requirements and/or prompts needed upon student visits.	Math tutoring from developmental math all the way through calculus	Professional tutors with degrees in English provide tutoring and writing assistance to help JJC students improve their writing; assistance is available for all types of writing assignments

Chart courtesy of Stephanie Braun

From left, Will County Executive Larry Walsh, Rep. Emily McCasey, JJC Trustee Chair Bob Wunderlich, JJC President Dr. Gena Proulx, and Rep. Dan Rutherford partake in the groundbreaking on Aug. 25.

Positively Groundbreaking

Photos by Jeff Fisher

On Tuesday Aug. 25, Joliet Junior College broke ground on the Campus Center south of the existing greenhouse on Main Campus.

The building, which will be LEED-certified with green roofs, will provide one-stop access to all student services, additional parking and access to natural areas.

The first floor will feature an enrollment center including admissions, financial aid and registration, a student success center which, including counseling, tutoring and career services, a cafeteria and a new outdoor dining area, indoor access to A and C Buildings and a bookstore.

The second floor will be the library which will have expanded computer workstations and eight new group study rooms.

The third floor will be the board room, the president's suite, administrative offices and the Human Resources office.

The Campus Center is scheduled to be completed in July of 2011.

JJC culinary arts alumni Tia Willis and Holly Ashley, owners of The Cakebox in New Lenox, created a cake for the groundbreaking reception to look like the future Campus Center.

Members of the JJC community gathered to witness the groundbreaking for the future Campus Center.

Fair continued

currently preventing some college students from doing things they once enjoyed.

"It's so hard to get a job today," said JJC student Travis Peters. "I used to go out all the time, but without that bit of income, I've had to cut back on things."

"[The job fair] was so helpful! I've been desperately looking for a job and this just made it so much easier."
BRIANNE FORREST

The Part-time/Seasonal Job Fair made it easy for students like Travis to apply for jobs in a one-stop-shop kind of way. Just walking through the C building once or twice on Sept. 18 gave students the opportunity to apply to 15+ businesses.

"[The fair] was so helpful!" said Brianne Forrest, a new student to JJC. "I've been desperately looking for a job and this just made it so much easier."

Missed the fair? Then make sure to check the student employment site on JJC's website frequently. The holiday season is coming up soon, too, and businesses tend to look for extra help to deal with the overflow of customers.

Zone continued

trained Allies of the program and as designated by a decal placed near their door, their offices will provide the aforementioned Safe Zone.

Provided twice during the Personal and Professional Development Week, training was a two hour course presented by Carlos Serrato, Director of Multicultural Student Services at Lewis University, and Pam Dilday, Director of Student Activies here at JJC. Training included a student panel who discussed their experiences at JJC as well as how they felt having Safe Zone in place would impact them and other students. Background information on Safe Zone and what it means to be an Ally was included as well.

Training was specific to the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender population and Allies were educated in issues relating to those students.

Allies will also be attending monthly in-service training sessions in which more resource information will be provided for them.

While Allies are not trained therapists or counselors they will provide a place where if a student has an issue they can be referred to other agencies or people who are qualified to provide the help they need. Furthermore Safe Zones, as indicated on the decal, will provide students with a place that "regardless of sex, race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, religion, age and ability, you will be treated and *respected*. Ignorance, bigotry, harassment, and discrimination will not be tolerated."

"We are working on promoting the concept of Safe Zone with posters around campus, Allies talking about the program and encouraging others to become a part of it, bulletin board displays and other means of publicity," says Dilday, however, most participating Allies can be found by locating the decal near their office.

"We are working on promoting the concept of Safe Zone with posters around campus, Allies talking about the program and encouraging others to become a part of it, bulletin board displays and other means of publicity."
PAM DILDAY

Trustee continued

As a trustee, his responsibilities included being a board representative to the JJC Foundation, the Buildings and Grounds Committee, Communications Committee, and Finance Committee.

Joliet Junior College Board Chair Bob Wunderlich said Trustee Barb Delaney suggested that the trustees buy a tree in Dystrup's honor.

"Lockport Township Park District has a brand new park close to Dick's house. There are no trees in it. Everybody's kicking in some money to get him a tree and a plaque," said Wunderlich.

The Board of Trustees discussed the vacancy created by the recent passing of Trustee Dystrup at their meeting on September 8th. The vacated seat must be filled within 60 days.

The person appointed then serves on the board until a successor is elected at the next regular election for board members.

The trustees took applications to fill the vacancy through Sept. 21. According to Jeff Julian, Director of Communications and External Relations, the board will hold a special meeting Sept. 24 to review the applicants and select three finalists and two alternates. The board will then interview the three finalists on Sept. 29 and the plan is to appoint the new trustee at the Oct. 13 board meeting.

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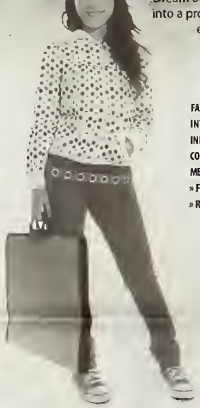

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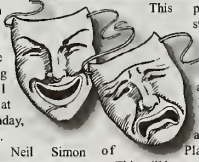
'God's Favorite' tempts audience

GLORIA CASTRO
Staff Writer

Are your seats reserved? If so, I congratulate you for not being in the category of a procrastinator. On the contrary, if not, then I have but one simple question: What are you waiting for? For god's messenger to compel you otherwise?

Theater aficionados can come and make an emphatic decision to indulge their taste for the arts by watching JJC's theater production *God's Favorite* on any of the following nights; Oct. 1 through Oct. 3 at 8 p.m. or Sunday, Oct. 4 at 2 p.m.



Playwright Neil Simon elicited his skillful plot for an amusing one based loosely on the biblical book of Job. Simon's interpretation takes the audience to a Long Island mansion dominated by a pious, God-fearing big shot, named Joe Benjamin and his loved ones: a long-suffering wife, Rose, a reckless son, David, a pair of wacky twins, Ben and Sarah and his maid and butler, Mady and Morris.

During one nightfall, a messenger from God, with a big 'G' on his sweatshirt, drops in and, as in the original story, in the politeness of temptation, asks Joe Benjamin to renounce God.

This production is being made possible by long time staff member and director, Nicki Blowers and her talented cast: James Jagos and Paige Hutchinson of Joliet, playing Joe and Mady respectively, Mark Parker of Wilmington, playing Sidney Lipton, the messenger from God, Kyle Wynn of Morris, playing David, Nathan Boroswki of Mokena, playing Ben, Travis Cisco and Cynthia Y. Cooper of Crest Hill, playing Morris and Rose respectively, and Taylor Murphy of Braidwood as Sarah.

This production is stage managed by David Laurich of Joliet with assistants Bailey Dunbar of Braceville and Aaron Curry of Plainfield.

This will be a very elated show, because of the zealous cast whose preparation was almost cut in half from the usual six weeks to an intense four weeks; six nights per week and four hours a day of practice.

"For a short period of time they have been a great cast, it's been absolutely wonderful!" said director Blowers.

Ticket pricing for the general public are $8.00, $5.00 for senior citizens and $3.00 for JJC Students. Additional discounts are available for non-JJC Students and JJC staff. To RSVP or for further information call 815-280-2200.

Hope to see you there for opening night!

UPCOMING JJC THEATRE EVENTS

MOTHER COURAGE AND HER CHILDREN

By Bertolt Brecht: November 12-15, 2009

Using short scene, songs, drama and comic interludes, Mother Courage and Her Children follows the fortunes of Anna Fierling (Mother Courage) and her three children as they attempt to make their living during the Thirty Years' War. Written in response to the rise of the Nazi party in pre-World War II Germany, the play is considered by some critics to be among the greatest anti-war dramas of all time. Directed by Zachary Bloomfield.

LA CAGE AUX FOLLES

Book by Harvey Fierstein, music and lyrics by Jerry Herman: March 4-7, 2010

Messieurs et dames, welcome to La Cage Aux Folles, a popular St. Tropez nightclub co-owned by Georges and Albin. Partners in life as well as business interrupted when their son announces that he is in love with the daughter of an ultra-conservative politician. With a delightful mix of hilarity and poignancy, this acclaimed musical celebrates family values, unconditional love, and the need to embrace individuality. Winner of the 1984 Tony for Best Musical and the 2005 Tony for Best Revival of a Musical. Directed by Clay Kirkland.

There's no place like Mainstreet

Photos by Edon Shaqiri

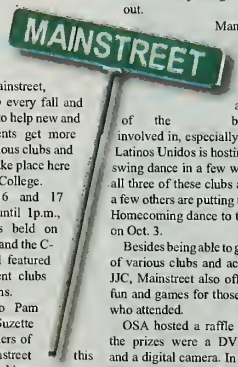
In its 13th year, Mainstreet continues to bring different organizations and students together in the concourse

"The best part of Mainstreet is definitely the information side. It helps students see exactly what JJC offers."

SUZETTE HINKLE

SHEILA AIMI

Staff Writer



For the past 13 plus years the Office of Student Activities has hosted Mainstreet, which is set up every fall and spring in order to help new and returning students get more involved in various clubs and activities that take place here at Joliet Junior College.

On Sept. 16 and 17 from 10 a.m. until 1p.m., Mainstreet was held on both the bridge and the C-Concourse, and featured over 70 different clubs and organizations.

According to Pam Dilday and Suzette Hinkle, the leaders of the OSA, Mainstreet this year had the biggest turnout it has had in years. Many OSA members felt that the bigger turnout and participation on the students' end this year is due to the large rise in the number of students enrolled at JJC.

With almost 15,000 students on campus, there is no doubt that school participation will rise majorly.

Some clubs and organizations that were at Mainstreet included Latinos Unidos, which stands for Latinos United, Student Government and the Black Student Union. These three clubs have many students who are currently involved, as well as numerous others that are interested in joining or helping out.

Many students look at these three clubs as some of the best to be involved in, especially since the Latinos Unidos is hosting a Latin swing dance in a few weeks, and all three of these clubs as well as a few others are putting together a Homecoming dance to take place on Oct. 3.

Besides being able to get an idea of various clubs and activities at JJC, Mainstreet also offers some fun and games for those students who attended.

OSA hosted a raffle in which the prizes were a DVD player and a digital camera. In order for students to get into the raffle they had to play Mainstream Bingo, in which they were asked to get signatures from various tables. Once they received the signatures, students would be given a raffle ticket, and later in the day winners were drawn.

"The best part of Mainstreet is definitely the information side. It helps students see exactly what JJC offers as far as extracurriculars and even community service opportunities," said Hinkle.

For those who did not get a chance to come out to Mainstreet, keep an eye out for next semester when OSA does it all over again.

From left, Jesus Cisneros, Kevin Egan, and Telma Lopez check out the Student Government booth.

Brandon Jenkins, right, informs Adrian Sibley, left, about opportunities with the Brother 2 Brother organization.

QUESTION OF THE ISSUE

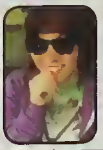
Do you think Kanye West was justified for expressing his opinions at the VMA's?

I think he's justified in having an opinion, but not justified in the manner he expressed it, without thinking about Taylor Swift and being ignorant about the feelings of an impressionable young girl.

ALEX VILLARREAL

I don't think it's justified at all. He has every right to express his opinion, but that was the wrong place and time.

JENA TOMASEK



I think he was wrong. I don't agree with his statement, but I will always buy his albums because he's a genius artist.

MILTON PATCH

I don't think that announcing his opinion during Taylor Swift's s acceptance speech was justified.

EMILY STOWE

SCARIER:

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STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

CORIE SIMPSON

"Being in Mississippi, and actually making a difference, really touched me and helped me realize that just one person can make a difference in someone's life."

KELSIE LOFDAHL
Copy Editor

Joliet Catholic Academy High School Graduate of 2007, Corie Simpson, enrolled in Joliet Junior College last spring after attending Indiana University.

She was involved with her high school clubs and activities and also participated in community service.

She was involved in "Key Club" which is a service club where she tutored children through Big Brothers and Big Sisters. In addition, she was the vice president of "Respect Life," where she did many things, including marching in Washington D.C. against abortion. Also, Simpson participated in track and field, by throwing the discus and shot put.

Being so involved in St. Paul's Youth Ministry, she was given the opportunity to do many service projects. Her favorite was spending two consecutive summers in Biloxi, Miss. doing Hurricane Katrina Relief.

"Being in Mississippi and actually making a difference, really touched me and helped me realize that just one person can make a difference in someone's life," said Simpson.

After graduating, Simpson pursued a degree in Psychology at Indiana University in Bloomington. After three semesters, she decided to come back home and follow her real passion, social work. Enrolling in JJC to save time and money, she is here for another semester.

Indiana University was a great experience for her, but she is happy to be back home.

"I am able to do what I really love," said Simpson, "If I can change one person's life throughout mine, I have been truly successful."

Simpson plans on eventually transferring to the University of Illinois in Champaign-Urbana, where she will continue to pursue her degree.

On Tuesday, Sept. 8, the Muslim Student Association celebrated Ramadan with a dinner on the bridge from 7 to 9 p.m. Alongside club members, friends from the community and former Alumni joined the celebration, according to Faiz Khaja, president of the MSA.

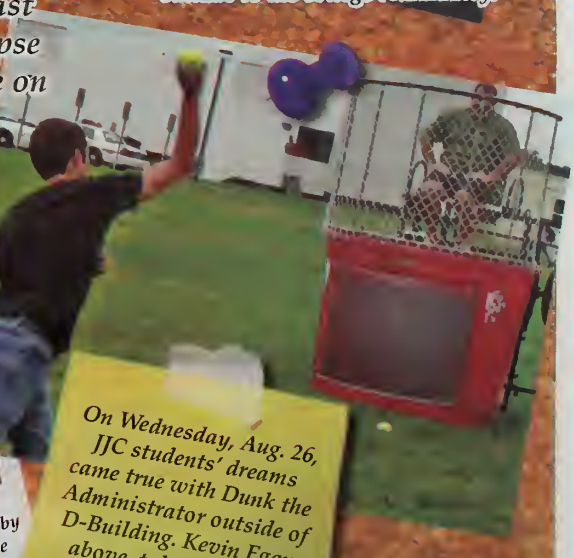
JJC Back In Session

Photos by Katherine Boehle and Shelley Holmgren

Been under a rock these past few weeks? Here's a glimpse of the past few weeks here on campus.

Where would Welcome Week be without the infamous karaoke on the bridge? Students turned out to sing their favorite power ballads to the college community.

On Wednesday, Sept. 9, Totally Tattoos made its mark on JJC students, sponsored by the Office of Student Activities. To see the full story, see page 4.



On Wednesday, Aug. 26, JJC students' dreams came true with Dunk the Administrator outside of D-Building. Kevin Egan, above, takes a shot at faculty member Jon Laratta.

Got some spare change?
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at blazermail@jjc.edu

THE PILLARS OF FITNESS

with RJ Loebe

Shocking the Muscle

RJ LOEBE

There are different standard rates people can use when working out. A lot of people will use the same routine and continue to use that without ever switching up the basic exercise or rep scheme. Some will continue to see gains and improvement in both weight and muscle size. While others will see a "plateau" of sorts in which all gains will be stopped.

One way in which to break these plateaus is to shock the muscle into another stage of growth. Shocking the muscle can lead to a wide range of muscle and strength gains. It's something that should only be administered whenever someone feels it is needed.

Overusing the method can cause tremendous strain on the body and leave someone with fatigued muscles which can lead to over training, which totally inhibits any ability of muscle gain.

Some ways to shock the body are to switch up routines, use different rep schemes or to just train to failure every set for one week. All these methods are known to work well and have been brought on to break the plateaus.

Some ways to shock the body are to switch up routines, use different rep schemes or to just train to failure every set for one week.

For example, one can switch up their training routine by changing the days they work out a body part. Monday instead of working out the chest, one can do the back, Tuesday chest instead of back, etc. Look for new ways to keep the muscle guessing to see growth and strength gains. The "shock" method can really help break plateaus and see new gains.

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$36 per line Sponsorship Fee may apply when enrolling your account to take advantage of corporate discounts.
IMPORTANT INFORMATION **Limited-time offer.** May require a 2-year agreement on a qualified plan. Other conditions & restrictions apply. See contract & rate plan brochure for details. Subscriber must live & have a mailing addr. within AT&T's owned wireless network coverage area. Equipment price & avail. may vary by mkt & may not be available from independent retailers. Purchase of additional equipment, services, or features may be required. Not all features available on all devices or in all areas. **Early Termination Fee:** None if cancelled in the first 30 days, but up to $35 restocking fee may apply to equipment returns; thereafter up to $175. Some agents impose add'l fees. **Unlimited voice services:** Unltd voice svcs are provided solely for live dialog between two individuals. No additional discounts are available with unlimited plan. **Offnet Usage:** If your voice or messaging service usage (including unltd svcs) during any two consecutive months or data service usage (including unltd svcs) during any month on other carriers' networks ("offnet usage") exceeds your offnet usage allowance, AT&T may at its option terminate your svc, deny your cont'd use of other carriers' coverage, or change your plan to one imposing usage charges for offnet usage. Your offnet usage allowance is equal to the lesser of 750 mins or 40% of the Anytime mins, the lesser of 24 MB or 20% of the MB incl'd with your plan, or the lesser of 3,000 messages or 50% of the messages included with your plan. AT&T will provide notice that it intends to take any of the above actions, and you may terminate the agreement. **Monthly discount:** Available to qualified employees of companies and/or government agencies and qualified students and employees of colleges/universities with a qualified business agreement ("Business Agreement"). Service discount subject to corresponding Business Agreement and may be interrupted and/or discontinued without notice to you. Service discount applies only to the monthly service charge of qualified plans and not to any other charges. A minimum number of employees, minimum monthly service charge for qualified plans, additional AT&T services, or other requirements may apply for discount eligibility. Discounts may not be combined. Other subject to change. Additional conditions and restrictions apply. If you have a question about available discounts and/or your eligibility, you can contact your company's telecommunications manager. Excludes iPhone™ plans. Copyright ©2009 Samsung Telecommunications America, LLC ("Samsung"). Samsung and Jack are both trademarks of Samsung Electronics America, Inc. and its related entities. Other company and product names mentioned herein may be trademarks of their respective owners. Screen images simulated. Facebook is a trademark of Facebook, Inc. ©2009 AT&T Intellectual Property. Service provided by AT&T Mobility. All rights reserved. AT&T, the AT&T logo, and all other marks contained herein are trademarks of AT&T Intellectual Property and/or AT&T affiliated companies. All other marks contained herein are the property of their respective owners.

Fresh Blood

Heather Brewer's series *The Chronicles of Vladimir Tod* tells a different vampire story

KATHERINE BOEHLE
Staff Writer

While most of the buzz about vampires recently has been all about Stephanie Meyer's quadrilogy, Twilight, there have been a few series about vampires that have come out also but have been drowned out.

Among them is Heather Brewer's, The Chronicles of Vladimir Tod. Vlad is just your typical orphan teenager living with his aunt and trying to (literally) survive through school. That is, except for the fact that he's part vampire, trying to resist feeding off his fellow classmates, and has a vampire, D'Ablo, out to kill him.

In the first two books of the series, Eighth Grade Bites and Ninth Grade Slays, it tells the story of Vlad's last year in middle school and first year in high school.

This includes trying to get bullies off his back, dealing with his huge crush on a girl who prefers his best friend, Henry, and being tailed by the school newspaper photographer who's determined to figure out Vlad's secret.

Plus, in the midst of all this, Vlad discovers he has a vampire uncle and that Elysia, the vampire society, is out to hunt him down for the crime his father committed by marrying a human.

The most recent addition to the series, Tenth Grade Bleeds, came out on June 25 of this past summer where Vlad's life is going downhill due to the fact that Uncle Otis has disappeared, Henry is avoiding him and Vlad's urge to feed off his friends and family, is becoming harder and harder.

Heather Brewer keeps amazing me with her story-telling abilities and active imagination with every book that she adds to this series. The thing that I love most about this series is that it sticks to the traditional legend of the vampire.

Now no offense to the Twilight fans out there, but one of the reasons that Twilight was frustrating is because Stephanie Meyer practically invented her own creature and stuck the label of the vampire on it. Brewer stayed with the traditional vampire legend, from the sun-sensitive skin (as in DEADLY sensitive and not sparkly sensitive), to the deadly garlic allergy.

Another thing that I absolutely love about this series is that it's strictly told from Vlad's point of view, a.k.a. it's told strictly from a vampire's point of view and how hard it is to live in a human world while being a vampire. Especially when Vlad got a girlfriend, he discovered just how hard it is to resist taking a bite with every kiss.

The first book of the series, Eighth Grade Bites, is a little bit on the preteen-ish side, but I certainly enjoyed it enough to buy the second book, which had gotten even better and a little bit more mature.

Now Tenth Grade Bleeds has definitely matured to teen status, having gotten much darker and bloodier and Vlad is maturing into quite the heartbreaker.

Overall, it's by far the best book in the series so far, and I absolutely cannot wait until Eleventh Grade Burns comes out in February of 2010 and the concluding book to the series, Twelfth Grade Kills, sometime after that.

Worth the wait

Brand New delivers for the fans with new album 'Daisy'

BECKA SCHALLAU
Staff Writer

Brand New, all clichés aside, has yet again created something brand new. Their fourth studio album Daisy hit stores on Sept. 22 and for fans, it has been long over-do.

Brand New consists of frontman Jesse Lacey, guitarist Vin Accardi, bassist Garrett Tierney, drummer Brian Lane and although not always credited, guitarist Derrick Sherman.

Listening to their previous records: Your Favorite Weapon (2001), Deja Entendu (2003), and The Devil and God are Raging Inside Me (2006) couldn't make anyone more prepared for what Daisy brings to the table.

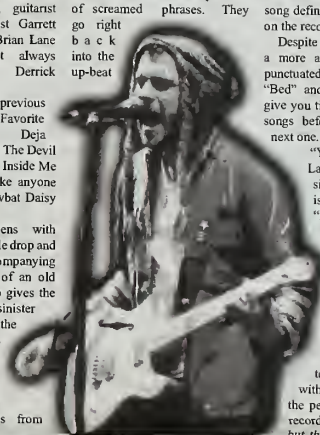
The record opens with "Vices," with a needle drop and a grainy piano accompanying a woeful rendition of an old gospel hymn, which gives the song an almost sinister feel. Just when the hymn feels like it is going to continue to a second verse it is halted by a screeching guitar and wailing vocals from Lacey.

The bellowing from the instruments (including the incredible bass line,) however, cannot guard the evident vulnerability in the lyrics.

"Where's all my hope and my marriage license?" he screams.

This song sets the tone for the record in the sense that it is impossible to know where they are going to take you next because they seem to be unclear themselves.

The louder, more aggressive tracks like "Gasoline," "Bought a Bride," "Sink" and "In a Jar" take off where "Vices" left off with tantrum-like vocals and explosive guitar riffs. "Sink," however, stands out in how the song starts with an almost southern stomp-like tempo with up-beat vocals and somehow ties in an abrupt strew of screamed phrases. They go right back into the up-beat tempo even after an aggressive chorus, as if they intended to make you uneasy and keep you guessing.


JESSE LACEY

"At the Bottom," which was the record's first single, shows a different side to Lacey as a vocalist, highlighting the way he can refer to deer that have been shot and dogs that have been hit by cars and still make them sound brilliant merely by how he sings about them.

One of the more uneasy songs on the record is "Be Gone" which can be considered unsettling merely because of how different it is. Sticky plucking on a guitar with a persistent drum beat escort inaudible lyrics through its entirety, which is less than two minutes in length. Regardless of its some-what odd direction, the song definitely serves its purpose on the record.

Despite the record presenting a more aggressive front, it is punctuated with tender tracks like "Bed" and "You Stole," which give you time to digest the other songs before moving onto the next one.

"You Stole" begins with Lacey crooning over a simple guitar line which is reminiscent of their "Deja Entendu" days. Despite it being a mellow song, it is not denied a collective uproar from the rest of the band, which makes the song even more devastatingly beautiful.

The record comes to an untimely end with "Noro," which is the perfect way to end this record. 'Noro' starts fragile *but then begins to reinforce* itself with crisp drums and grungy guitar lines. "I'm on my way out!" Lacey wails as the song spins to a new height and then abruptly de-rails, followed by the remainder of the prayer hymn. A personal highlight of this record, for sure.

Daisy is hard to swallow at first because of all the catching up you have to do while listening, which makes it hard to simply enjoy, but once you have listened to it, it's chaos that makes perfect sense.

Piccoult pens new tearjerker in *Handle With Care*

RYAN WEBER
Staff Writer

Would you sue your doctor for the "wrongful birth" of your daughter? What if that lawsuit was for money so that you could give that same child the life she deserved? But in the process, you would lose everything that you once held dear. Would you still go through with it? This is the basis of Jodi Picoult's newest book Handle with Care.

This novel starts off with the birth of Charlotte and Sean O'Keefe's second daughter Willow. At birth, Willow had a total of seven healing fractures and four new ones from the birth itself. She was diagnosed with Type III osteogenis imperfecta, a disease that causes the bones to break easily because of a lack of calcium. After this, the reader is taken to the present time.

Willow is now six years old with a total of 58 breaks in her life. Her older sister, Amelia, is now nine. Charlotte, their mother, ends up suing the doctor (her best friend) for malpractice stating "wrongful birth". From here on the book is like a roller coaster in which you do not know where it will end.

In this novel, Jodi Picoult has put in so many twists and turns that you will not be able to put it down. I think that this would be a great read and a great movie also because she includes everything. And I don't say this lightly, because you see malpractice lawsuits, divorce, friendships, disorders, suicide attempts, and so much more. But none of this is a light read or one that make you spirits soar.

. . . Jodi Picoult has put in so many twists and turns that you will not be able to put it down.

Now, for being a novel geared more towards the feminine side of our culture, I really enjoyed this book. I like how Picoult lures the reader in and keeps them captivated all the way through. I also liked how she set up the book in which everyone in Willow's life had a certain chapter and you got to see everyone's perspective.

Saying this, I do believe that the story, in some parts, lacked originality. I kept seeing parts from her earlier book, My Sister's Keeper. For instance, Amelia feels that she is being ignored by her parents and that she has to be rebellious in all sorts of ways.

At one point in the story, you see her dying her hair, cotton candy blue. Another example of the lack of originality I saw in the book was Charlotte. She always seems to be preoccupied with Willow and never seems to care about Amelia until it was almost too late.

Throughout the novel I kept seeing myself changing my attitude and how I felt depending on who was narrating at the certain point. When Amelia was narrating, I was always sad and wished that something would happen to help her situation out or that someone in her life would actually wake up and see that she needs help too.

On the other hand though, when Charlotte narrated I started to feel angry and wished that someone would see her stupidity and take the kids away from her. I always thought that she would have some sort of breakdown and go onto medication herself. At points I wanted to skip any chapter that had her name as the title and just not listen to her narrate.

It was amazing how Picoult was able to capture all of these emotions and get certain feelings towards the characters.

The ending of the novel was the worst part of the story in my mind. It was well written but like most of Picoult's endings, the ending left you sad and hanging. It makes you wonder if anything happy can end up happening. I will give her credit by saying that none of her endings are what you expect them to be. But at the same time it is definitely not how you wanted it to end and it made me kind of mad that it ended that way.

Overall I really liked her book and would suggest it to anyone who asks. I will probably end up reading it again one day. A word of caution to the reader though, I do believe that one should be in a happy mood or atmosphere when starting this novel.

For once you start reading, you will not be able to put it down. It is however one of those novels that make you sad. So for those few who tend to cry in novels, a box of tissues might be needed as well.

Game Over

Gamer proves that videogames are better to play than watch

ADRIANO VAZQUEZ
Staff Writer

Gamer, the new movie by the directors of the Crank films (Mark Neveldine and Brian Taylor) is a forgettable action movie that is loud, uninvolving and pounds you too much with messages and clichés about societies' obsession with videogames.

It's also the biggest videogame advertisement since the 1980's family film, The Wizard, not exactly a compliment there. In order to describe how it feels to watch Gamer, imagine Epic' games huge franchise series Gears of War; now imagine not being able to play it because your older brother is a douche bag and won't let you play. Simply put, watching Gamer is like watching a videogame without the ability to play it.

In the world of Gamer, a man named Ken Castle has found a way to revolutionize the gaming industry with the use of nanites.

Nanities are micro chips that are imported to the brain, take over the brain cells and give a player the ability to take over an individual. Basically you get the ability to control your own avatar, except the catch is that the avatar you are controlling is a human being.

An interactive first person shooter game named Slayers, allows an individual to control death role inmates in intense, real life warfare. For videogame addicts like me, think Call of Duty 4 with the blood and gore of Gears of War.

If the inmate survives 30 matches, they get released from prison. A man named Kable (played by Gerald Butler from -300) has survived 27 matches and is on the brink of being released. He is the only inmate who has ever come that close to beating the game. He is controlled by 17-year-old Simon, who has also gained publicity for controlling the insane and great Kable.

Following the 28th or 29th match, a rebel leader named Humanz Brother (played by Ludacris) sends out a message to Kable that Ken Castle plans to kill him and that there is a much greater purpose for the Nanite chips. When Kable makes contact with Simon on the 30th match (which isn't allowed), Kable gets Simon to disconnect from each other and escapes the game world in order to track down Ken Castle and find his wife and daughter.

The action sequences are shot so fast that you might experience whiplash watching it.

Compared to the Crank movies (I have only seen Crank 2: High Voltage by the way), Gamer seems to be more concerned with telling an involving narrative, and in this way, it fails, miserably. It's obvious that the story isn't why we watch these kinds of movies in the first place, and man was I bored at the moments when the movie tried to show dramatic interest in its characters and plot.

You not only could care less about the conclusion of the story, you also can't even admire the messages that the film tries to jam into your head almost every five minutes about how society is obsessed with videogames and that technology is the death of us all.

Heavily borrowed from the Crank movies, the style in Gamer seems to be lacking, or really just uninspired. Instead of giving it more of a unique and fresh style, the movie just takes the disturbing imagery of the Crank films and does nothing with it, it's just there.

The action sequences are shot so fast that you might experience whiplash watching it. It's cut so quickly that you can't even appreciate the action that is going on. It's so loud and aggressive and fast that you just can't enjoy it for what it is.

If you are a fan of the Crank films and the kind of loud and obnoxious action filmmaking associated with them, then by all means go and watch this now. But for everyone else, you'll be bored out of your mind. Next to Transformers 2 and Terminator Salvation, Gamer joins the list of horrible action pictures that just fail at almost everything it tries.

4 Liner Notes

Boys Like Girls disappoints with sophomore album 'Love Drunk'

RYAN KELLEY
Staff Writer

After four years without any new material, the Boston pop-punkers Boys Like Girls have resurfaced with their sophomore album "Love Drunk". But was this album really worth the wait? While fans have been eagerly awaiting the arrival of this album, it appears Boys Like Girls have just imitated the sound of many popular mainstream bands. When you hear the first track off "Love Drunk," you may think that you've left your Bon Jovi CD in the stereo as "Heart Heart Heartbreak's," guitar effect and vocals sound so similar to Bon Jovi's style.

Already unoriginal, we now hear their first single "Love Drunk." Now the guitar chime in the beginning of this song sounds very reminiscent to The Who's "Baba O' Riley" along with the chorus imitating The Killers "Somebody Told Me." Still, the song does hit listeners with a beautiful key change in the chorus towards the end that will keep this an overplayed song on the radio for months to come.

Next we hear "She's Got a Boyfriend Now," an addition to the album that shows that Boys Like Girls have not left their catchy hooks behind. Besides the catchy chorus though, the song is nothing that will blow your mind.

Next, they settle it down with an acoustic track called "Two is Better Than One," which features superstar Taylor Swift. Behind lead singer Martin Johnson's singing, Swift's voice appears very indistinguishable, and you may not even notice her singing in the chorus unless you look at the album and see her name featured.

Boys Like Girls has jumped on the list of sell-out bands today such as All Time Low and Fall Out Boy that have overly produced albums with songs that will become ear candy for radio stations.

The creativity/originality by Boys Like Girls grows worse as the next song "Contagious," starts out exactly the same as Bowling For Soup's song "High School Never Ends." As usual, they still come back with a catchy chorus, but continue to keep the album cliché and a huge letdown for fans. There are still a few more songs though, so let's move on.

"Real Thing," is the next song that we hear, and I have to say again, how much originality that Boys Like Girls continues to lack on this album. It seems like the band is stuck in the 80s as this song sounds like a single that Duran Duran would put out back in the day. The song, along with the entire album has overproduction written all over it.

But on the next song "Someone Like You," Boys Like Girls display a side of maturity as this song shows their religious side and the coming of a newfound love. Next we hear "Shot Heard Round the World," a song that is so boring and predictable. The song is a great example of how lazy a band can be and also how bad they can be critiqued by not testing their experimental side. With more bad songs than good, I really don't think there is anything to sit back and smile at after this release. Boys Like Girls has jumped on the list of sell-out bands today such as All Time Low and Fall Out Boy that have overly produced albums with songs that will become ear candy for radio stations.

On their first album they proved they had talent, but with the release of Love Drunk, they sound like a boy-band from the 90s. It is often said that imitation is the highest form of flattery. If this is true, then Boys Like Girls have succeeded.

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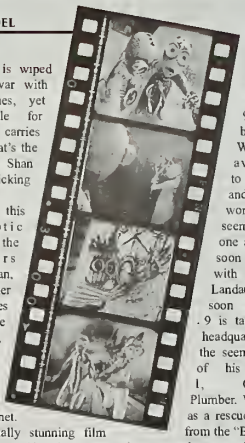
At The Seams

Visual effects hold '9' together

MARK NOEL
Staff Writer



Mankind is wiped out in a war with the machines, yet the struggle for humanity carries on. Well, that's the story and Shan Acker is sticking to it.

In this apocalyptic world of 9 the characters aren't human, but rather sack creatures not unlike Sackboy, for those familiar with PS3's hit LittleBigPlanet.

This visually stunning film was also produced by Tim Burton and you can see the influence. A dark tone and adult orientated story earns this animated film a PG-13 rating in America. Though not particularly gory, the sight of the occasional dead human and severed hand for a seat reminds us why it's not for kids.

The movie opens with 9, voiced by Elijah Wood, awakening to a strange and destructed world with seemingly no one around. He soon meets up with 2, Martin Landau, but 2 is soon taken and 9 is taken to the headquarters of the seeming leader of his "people" 1, Christopher Plumber. What starts as a rescue operation from the "Beast" turns into a much worse situation for these sack people as they awaken a long dormant computer bent on destroying these almost cute characters.

The film doesn't really stand up as well story wise as it does visually. The action in this movie would make Michael Bay jealous. 7, Jennifer Connelly, is by far the best suited to fight out of the bunch with 5, John C. Reilly, making the biggest emotional impact.

The movie is oddly paced, with a couple moments of what seemed like confusion on where to take it next. Acker tries to take the movie to the next level with a surreal explanation of what the sack people are, but it doesn't seem to hold up and doesn't elicit the emotional response he was going for.

The characters are one dimensional, though that is to be forgiven because of the aforementioned explanation, but it just doesn't help the story much. It's a bit too predictable and the environment a little too familiar.

When it's all said and done the movie really holds together because of the spectacles and beauty of the onscreen action, and though not original, the great looking setting. The dialogue and story don't do as much justice, but don't necessarily bring it completely down.

It's still a visually stunning film that tries to make a point. Though I think the other film with a 9 in the title did that a bit better.

The Tarantino Touch

Inglorious Basterds rocks Nazi Germany

SAAD SHALABI
Staff Writer

When I first heard about Inglorious Bastards I've got to be honest, I thought "Oh good, another World War II film, I'll pass."

True, whenever Quentin Tarantino directs a film my interest is piqued, but this was hardly a new story path he was treading here. Nazis. Occupation. American freedom fighters. Okay, we get it.

However, being a Tarantino fan, I found myself with my insanely overpriced gallon of cherry coke watching anyway.

I have to say, I was impressed. Tarantino took a concept that has been seen in film hundreds of times already and managed to give it that touch of quirkness and dark humor that is just so Tarantino-esque.

The movie starts off with a dialogue that is both smart and snappy and also helps to set up the seriousness of the situation. Interestingly enough, the movie is spoken largely in German and French with subtitles. The allies speak English as well as other characters when the need arises. Style points for authenticity Quentin.

One reason I'm a fan of Tarantino's work is that he likes to show the audience exactly where he wants to take them. This film is not for moviegoers who enjoy trying to figure out the plot within the plot.

This is a movie with a distinct goal in mind. What makes this movie so entertaining for me are all the twists and missteps that the characters go through to reach that goal.

This film is not for moviegoers who enjoy trying to figure out the plot within the plot. This is a movie with a distinct goal in mind.

Brad Pitt may be the biggest name on the marquee, but the movie is driven by really excellent performances by the cast in general, and by Christoph Waltz in particular.

Waltz, who plays Colonel Hans Landa, the Nazi mastermind in charge of rounding up all the dissenters still living in Nazi-occupied France, really takes the movie by storm.

The audience wants to hate him for obvious reasons, but you feel yourself almost unwillingly impressed by his cold, calculating wit and attention to detail. This is just my opinion of course, but you should always have a top-notch villain to make your heroes look extra heroic.

In contrast Lt. Aldo Raine looks, and sounds, like a country bumpkin who should be hopelessly outmatched. And that's why the movie is so fun to watch. Things never work out like they should. To paraphrase an ancient quote, "the plan never survives contact with the enemy."

This movie starts off seemingly predictable but ends up taking you for a joyride where things never turn out as expected. If you're looking for a movie that's fun to watch, full of characters and quotes and action sequences that jump out at you, this is a movie you'll enjoy.

DIANE KRUGER

Image courtesy of movieweb.com

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B.S. in Management student

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VOLLEYBALL

Lady Wolves' record doesn't tell whole story

TOMMY STOKKE
Sports Editor

From the outside looking in it appears that the Joliet Junior College women's volleyball team is having a down year.

Head coach Kisha Cameron believes that couldn't be farther from the truth.

While the Lady Wolves post a 6-11 overall record, they are 3-0 in conference and have fought hard through their toughest stretch of the season.

"Teams come in and see our record and think it's going to be an easy match," said Cameron. "They come in laughing, but by the first time-out, they are sweating bullets."

Cameron is in her first year as the head coach at JJC. Last season, she was an assistant coach at Harper College. Although she didn't sign onto the job until late February, Cameron has come a long way to instill a tougher attitude in the team.

"I want to do my best to field a competitive team," said Cameron. "Of course I want to win every match, but if we are going to get beat, the other team will have to give it everything they've got to do it. No one will be walking out of the gym thinking Joliet is a joke."

The tough early schedule was no accident.

"I loaded the schedule early on purpose," said Cameron. "Now that we have tasted losing early in the season, we have let our frustration build up and we are ready to let it out against conference opponents."

With a 6-11 record, Cameron expects to be seen as a pushover.

"We prefer teams to come in laughing looking at our record. However, we have not lost to a Division III junior college yet, and it doesn't take teams long to figure out that we are here to fight."

JJC isn't under the radar everywhere. According to Cameron, the Wolves are ranked third in the conference poll, behind only national powerhouses Rock Valley College and Madison Area Technical College, who are ranked second and third in the nation, respectively.

Cameron is impressed with the team's passion for the game. Her team's talent is also one of its strength.

> *"If we win, outstanding, but the only way we lose to me is if we have someone walk off the court believing they didn't leave everything out there."*
> HEAD COACH KISHA CAMERON

"Although we don't have a lot of depth, each game someone's role changes and someone new seems to step up each and every game," said Cameron. "I am particularly impressed with Amie Hogan. She is the setter so she is like the quarterback on the team. She just places the ball perfectly where our hitters want the ball, and as a result, they can have a field day."

As conference action is kicking into gear, Cameron is less worried about the marks in the wins and losses columns, but instead she is more focused on the play on the court.

"If we win, outstanding, but the only way we lose to me is if we have someone walk off the court believing they didn't leave everything out there. We are ahead of schedule right now, and as long as we play our game, then other teams will have to be careful if they want a victory."

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Lady Wolves look to return to winning track

JIM SHELDON

Co-Editor-In-Chief

The Joliet Junior College women's soccer team has some unfinished business this season.

Last season they had a 10-7-1 record and won the N4C conference championship. They came up short in the regional championship to the College of DuPage however.

The Lady Wolves lost their top goal scorer from a year ago, April Kutchinski, who is now at North Central College. The challenge will be how they replace her school record 15 goals in a season.

Gino Di Nardo is in his second year as the head coach of the Lady Wolves. The team returns three players from last year's team, goalkeeper Kourtnee Kulovitz, goalkeeper Michelle Del Sarto and midfielder Courtney Divita. With 12 new faces on the team, the challenge will be how quickly the team can learn each other's tendencies and come together.

Del Sarto had a school record 152 saves and seven shutouts last season.

The Lady Wolves got off to a good start, winning their opener against South Suburban College 4-0, but they have fallen on hard times recently, having been shutout in five consecutive games, putting their record at 1-5 overall and 0-3 in the N4C.

Freshman forward Melissa Muser is leading the team in scoring with two goals and five points. Freshman defender Sasha Garcia and Divita have scored one goal apiece. Goalkeeper Del Sarto has recorded 55 saves for the Lady Wolves and has one shutout.

Mid-fielder Jenna Gruben goes after the ball against Harper Community College. The Lady Wolves lost 3-0. *Photo by Mike DiNovo*

UPCOMING LADY WOLVES GAMES

SEP. 28 PRAIRIE STATE COLLEGE
HOME 4:00 PM
SEP. 30 *COLLEGE OF DUPAGE
HOME 4:00 PM

Wolves look to improve on last season's finish

ANDREW SANTILLO

Staff Writer

For most area soccer teams, making it to the regional finals is simply a goal (no pun intended), but for last year's Joliet Junior College men's soccer team, that goal became a reality. Last year the Wolves made a successful run all the way to the Region IV Championship game, but suffered a 1-0 loss to Triton College in overtime.

> *"We've been tested, but we know that we can compete with the best in the region."*
>
> HEAD COACH CRIS TRILLO

This year the Wolves are looking to build on last year's success and make it back to the Region IV championship with five returning players and a lot of new faces joining the team. With all the new faces, putting the pieces to the puzzle together is a difficult task, but it doesn't take away from the challenge that lies before the Wolves this season.

"Our next challenge is to go past the Region IV championship and make it to the Regional championship." said head coach Cris Trillo.

"We've been tested, but we know that we can compete with the best in the region."

The Wolves have already started play this season and currently have a 2-4 record on the year with a 1-3 record against conference opponents.

The Wolves travelled to Triton College on Sept. 16 and came up a little short, losing 4-2. Midfielder Eddie Martinez and defender Ariel Ortega scored the goals for the Wolves and goalkeeper Eriberto Gonzalez had four saves in the game.

Prior to the game against Triton, the Wolves fell at home to Madison Area Technical College on Sept. 11 by a 3-1 score. Arturo Rios scored the lone goal for the Wolves and Gonzalez recorded four saves at goal.

The Wolves upcoming schedule includes a road game vs. conference rival Kankakee Community College on Friday, Sept. 18, and a home game vs. Illinois Benedictine University JV on Monday, Sept. 21. Both games have a start time of 4 p.m.

Back On Track

Wide receiver Donny Shwaga makes a catch against North Dakota State College of Science . JJC won the game 35-21.

Photo by Mike DiNovo

After rough 2008 season, Wolves off to 3-1 start

TOMMY STOKKE
Sports Editor

After a rough first season at Joliet Junior College, second-year coach Jeremy Richardson has the Wolves back on the winning track.

The Wolves, who finished 4-6 last season, are off to a 3-1 start and expectations are sky high once again.

"Last year I came in and was thrown into the fire, and any time you take over a program like JJC expectations are high," said Richardson.

Richardson installed his off-season schedule for the first time this season and his team is reaping the benefits.

"At the junior college level the kids need to reach deep down and realize the off-season is their time to get better," said Richardson. "They have really started to figure it out."

The Wolves suffered their first loss of the season to Midwest Football Conference opponent Ellsworth Community College 42-28 on Sept. 19 in Joliet. Sophomore quarterback Chris Walley threw for 457 yards and four touchdowns. Wide receiver Brandon Williams caught 8 passes for 244 yards and three touchdowns.

"Chris is really a vocal leader for our team," said Richardson. "He has really stepped up for us this season and when he speaks, the team listens."

JJC opened up the year with a win on the road against Rock Valley College 18-6. Walley led the team with 275 yards in the air, including one touchdown.

The Wolves were once again victorious in their home opener with a 35-21 win over North Dakota State School of Science on Sept. 5. It was sophomore wide-out Donnie Schwaga who got the offense going by scoring the first two touchdowns on catches of 49 and 8 yards.

A win over newcomer Iowa Western Community College on Sept. 12 pushed the Wolves to a 3-0 mark. Jason Owens delivered the winning field goal to seal the 25-22 victory. Schwaga led the team with 5 catches and 87 yards while Williams hauled in 4 balls for 74 yards.

"Greg Preston and Jeris Pendleton are leaders in their own way and Jarvis Smith has really stepped up in the secondary. He is only going to get better and he keeps learning."

While going 3-1 is nice, Richardson knows how quickly things can change.

"The coaches continue to remind the guys not to get caught up in our record because you can lose momentum so quickly. It happens in every sport, a team that is supposed to be good turns out bad, and vice versa. We continually remind them to take pride in what they do as well as letting them know what they are doing wrong, so we can continue to improve."

According to Richardson, the strength of the team is the leadership. That leadership has the Wolves rapidly approaching their goals.

"We expect to win it all, no matter what. Our first goal is to win the conference, hopefully get a good bowl game, and win it. We have to go out and take care of business and win the games we should win as well as playing with total team play and total team effort. It's hard to say where we are going to end up, but the beauty of it is each week trying to take that top spot."

QB CHRIS WALLEY

MALE ATHLETE OF THE ISSUE — FEMALE ATHLETE OF THE ISSUE

BY JIM SHELDON

Sophomore quarterback Chris Walley is off to a strong start this season for the Wolves. Walley completed 23 of 44 passes for 457 yards and 4 touchdowns in a 42-28 loss to Midwest Football Conference opponent Ellsworth Community College on Sept. 19. Walley also completed 18 of 32 passes for 268 yards and a touchdown in a 25-22 win over MFC opponent Iowa Western Community College on Sept. 12. For the season Walley has 1,193 passing yards and eight touchdown passes.

CHRIS WALLEY

Freshman setter Amie Hogan has been a valuable addition to the Lady Wolves this season. Hogan had 32 assists and 16 digs in a 25-18, 25-13, 19-25, 22-25, 15-8 win over N4C conference opponent the College of DuPage on Sept. 8. Hogan also had 31 assists and nine digs in a 16-25, 17-25, 22-25 loss to St. Louis CC-Meramec on Sept. 5. For the season Hogan has 378 assists and 99 digs.

AMIIE HOGAN

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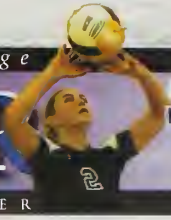

Lady Wolves look to finish strong page 15

News

Award winning author takes JJC 'Around the World'

KAT BOEHLE
Staff Writer

Ever wondered what kind of crazy creatures you would find in each continent of the world? Marty Essen wondered this after a trip to Belize with his wife, Deb, which led him to the publishing of his nationally award winning book, Cool Creatures, Hot Planet: Exploring the Seven Continents.

On Sept. 29, on the south bridge, one might have seen Marty Essen performing his show, Around the World in 50

See World page 5

Baseball field renamed in honor of King

JIM SHELDON
Co-Editor-In-Chief

Joliet Junior College renamed its baseball field Wayne L. King Jr. Field in a Sept. 24 ceremony to honor the college's athletics director and head baseball coach, whose 803 collegiate career wins are the most in school history.

2010 will be King's 24th year as the head baseball coach at JJC. During that time, 90 percent of his student athletes have transferred to four-year schools.

The dedication ceremony began at 6 p.m. at the baseball field on the Main Campus. Scott

See Field page 4

Over one third of drivers under 24 are guilty of ...

D.W.I.

Driving While inTEXTicated

Story By Becky Gomolka

Communication is an essential part of living. Within the past decade, the ways in which people communicate with each other have changed greatly.

E-mail became necessary for work, cell phones are critical for everyday living, and now, texting is one of the most popular means of communication.

Continued on page 6

Crunching the numbers

21 percent of fatal car crashes involving teen-agers between the ages of 16 and 19 were the result of cell phone usage each year.

50 percent of all drivers between the ages of 18 and 24 are texting while driving

1,000 number of accidents involving 16-17 year old drivers caused by cell phone use in 2007

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Proper 'stalking' etiquette

EDITORIAL

The majority of us have done this. Well those of us who drive to school that is. You pull into the parking lot and look for that Holy Grail of a parking spot, which is few and far between.

For the rest of us, we go up and down the rows hoping that today is our lucky day and that we can snag a spot in the first few rows. This is a rare occurrence as we're sure you all know.

So that leaves three options: one, park in the back eighty of the lot (the last few rows) and trek into the building bearing the elements, two, leave the lot and play Parking Lot Roulette all over again (we don't recommend this, it will most likely leave you in a bad mood) or third, "stalk a student."

No, we're not talking about actually stalking someone; we'd like to think that people here are smart enough to know that doing that is wrong and illegal.

What we mean by "stalking" is to follow a student out to their car in the hope that they're leaving and have a decent parking spot. And if you haven't done this, you've seen people doing it, creeping along the lot, waiting for students to go to their cars.

But the question that you have to ask yourself is; is the student that is walking to the parking lot leaving? Sometimes they're just heading out to nap in their car. They also might have forgotten something in their car and are going right back inside. If they're athletes, they might go out and change for practice.

So here are a couple things to keep in mind so you can find a decent parking spot and not be left screaming because the student that you were "stalking" went back inside.

- If a student isn't carrying any books or doesn't have a backpack, chances are they are going right back into the building, they most likely forgot something in their car.

- If they're walking with a group of friends, it's probably best to pick someone else. People walk real slowly in groups and even if they are going to their car, it will be a little while before they get over there.

-If they glance over their shoulder more than once at you, they may be thinking that you are actually stalking them and this may be a good time to abort the mission and move on to a new student.

-And finally, screaming out of your car at the student you're "stalking" will not make them walk any faster and may actually result in a loss of your prospective spot.

If you follow these tips, you should be able to find a decent parking spot. Of course nothing is a guarantee, so don't come to our office and yell at us if you "stalk" the wrong person. It's not our fault, things happen.

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The Pop Culture Commentary WITH SHELLEY HOLMGREN

Selling out doesn't always meaning selling

Sell out – a phrase that most artists equate with blacklisting from their devoted fans. In most occasions, selling out is an attempt by a performer to restart their career.

Whether they decide to dress down for the occasion (see Nelly Furtado later on) or do a collaboration with a "hip" artist that is half their age (see Madonna's new attempt at staying hip, "Revolver" featuring Lil Wayne) – either way, it's just bad news.

The latest edition to the ever growing list of sell-outs is a band that I am greatly devoted to – Death Cab for Cutie. With albums like Transatlanticism, and Plans, these Seattle rockers have come to be known as pioneers of their genre, comfortably straddling the line between mainstream success while still remaining genuine.

That was until lead singer Ben Gibbard and the rest of DCFC came to the conclusion that they need to stretch their horizons a little and contribute a song to cinema. Under most circumstances, I would be ecstatic, but in this case, it's the worst possible scenario collected in two syllables – New Moon.

Contributing their aptly titled "Meet Me On the Equinox" to the film, DCFC hopes to broaden their fan base. Most often when a performer wants to sell their soul for more albums, they use the residual excuse of wanting to appeal to a new "demographic." So what's the new demographic here, DCFC, tweens and housewives?

> *I know my pain will come to fruition when I see a 12-year old with a "Twilight" backpack sporting a Death Cab tee.*

I know my pain will come to fruition when I see a 12-year old with a "Twilight" backpack sporting a Death Cab tee. Call me dramatic, but I'm going to turn around now so that Gibbard can remove the knife from my back.

Climbing aboard the sell-out express is Radiohead front man Thom Yorke who contributed his new single "Hearing Damage" to the film's soundtrack as well. I ask now, why sell-out like this?

It's not like Yorke is hard-up for fans. Radiohead's 2007 release In Rainbows sold over 3 million copies – and please note that they were giving the album away for free on their website. This is just bad news, people, but there's more, much more.

Hey, remember Nelly Furtado when she wasn't gyrating in music videos next to Timbaland? I'll give you a hint – once upon a time in the distant land of 2001, Furtado received worldwide acclaim for her infectious hit "I'm Like A Bird," garnering Grammy acclaim for the album it derived from.

Come 2006, Furtado released Loose, a compilation of sweaty club songs that make you want to take a shower after first listen. Are they catchy? Sure, but tell that to her album sales. This sans dignity compilation sold over one million less than her debut.

But not all fingers can be pointed at DCFC and Furtado. Their pathways from musician to sell out have been sculpted out by generations of musicians before her (see U2, Sheryl Crowe, the Rolling Stones and Green Day).

So, aspiring artists who plan on becoming worldwide sensations, but then have a falling out, followed by a voracious comeback—try to do so with a little dignity. Is it worth alienating your true fans when you are going to make less money?

I know time's are hard, but come on, if Christina Aguilera can come back from "Dirrty," I think there's hope for you all. So please, avoid tween films ... or at least avoid Timbaland.

The Student Trustee Report

with Darren Newenhouse

My name is Darren Newenhouse. I am the Student Trustee for the 2009-2010 academic year. Since beginning my term last April, I have found the role to be a lot of hard work—and very rewarding.

It takes quite a bit of energy to represent students at JJC in a way that is effective and worthwhile. Before becoming Student Trustee, I had extensive experience organizing volunteer efforts and grassroots community outreach projects.

As Student Trustee, I have remained active in similar projects, but have taken on concerns that affect JJC students as well.

One of the most pressing issues that has come about during my term is the Monetary Award Program (MAP) Grant crisis for the 2009-2010 academic year. MAP Grants are funded by the State of Illinois and distributed by the Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC).

The MAP Grant is an important resource for students who require need-based financial aid. According to saveillinoismapgrants.org, a website launched by ISAC, "Nearly 270,000 eligible Illinois college students will receive either no Monetary Award Program (MAP) grant money or just half of what they are eligible to receive."

The current state budget has provided some of the funds for the Fall semester MAP Grant awards, but does not provide enough funding for ISAC to pay any MAP Grant awards for Spring 2010, regardless of eligibility.

Johnathan Wilson, a former Student Trustee of JJC, has been appointed by Governor Quinn to be the Student Commissioner, a student representative for the entire state of Illinois, on ISAC.

His recommendations for helping to save the MAP Grants are to write, email, call or visit your Illinois lawmakers in person; or make and sign petitions to show the importance of MAP Grants.

There is also a student rally for MAP Grants in Springfield on Oct. 15, where students can come together and voice their concerns, as well as lobby their legislators. ISAC's website, www.saveillinoismapgrants.org, has more details on this and other efforts that can be made on behalf of funding MAP Grants.

The final veto sessions for restoring funding to the MAP Grants wrap up in October and are the last chance of maintaining the funding in the future. At JJC, nearly 2,000 students will be affected, having to find alternate funding for their classes.

Cuts in the MAP Grants may also cause students at 4-year universities to search for cheaper forms of education, and may cause an increase in enrollment at community colleges, including JJC.

If you have any questions or concerns about this, or anything else at JJC, you may contact me at dnewen01@jjc.edu. I have recently established office hours in the Student Government Office at JJC and information about that will posted around the JJC campuses.

GARDENING CORNER
with Nicole Gear

Move over corn, miscanthus might be the next biofuel

For a number of years, researchers at the University of Illinois have been exploring bioenergy sources. This includes field trials where corn, switchgrass and miscanthus are grown side-by-side for comparison.

Of these three, miscanthus has emerged as the obvious leader, generating enough biomass to produce 250 percent more ethanol per acre than corn. And the advantages over corn don't stop there. Miscanthus x giganteus is a perennial grass that can reach a height of 14 feet. By using a sterile hybrid, planted fields can easily be reclaimed for other crops such as corn and soybeans.

It is not considered invasive in the U.S. and Europe, where it has been grown extensively. Miscanthus is a pretty tough plant. It requires much less input, such as fertilizers and pesticides, than corn and tolerates poor soil well. This opens up the possibilities for where it could be grown as it doesn't necessarily have to use land that is already being used for crop production. Besides being a carbon-neutral energy source, M. x giganteus is also a carbon-sequestering plant.

Miscanthus is a pretty tough plant. It requires much less input, such as fertilizers and pesticides, than corn and tolerates poor soil well.

This is important when considering climate change because miscanthus takes carbon that would otherwise be in the atmosphere and releases it into the soil. U of I is using biofuel to heat the Fisher House at the SoyFACE facility. They estimate that by replacing natural gas with miscanthus produced heat energy, they have prevented the emissions of 51 tons of carbon per year.

Though it doesn't sound like much, this is based on only one home. Imagine how substantial that number could be if we all switched to miscanthus to heat our homes! Like any large-scale project, there are still kinks that need to be worked out. Although most of the care for M. x giganteus can be done with equipment that farmers use now for other crops, planting is a little trickier.

Because it is a sterile hybrid, M. x giganteus can only be propagated by rhizome, which took the team at U of I a full day to plant 15 acres. In Europe, there is a patented piece of equipment that can plant 50 acres per day.

The actual processing of miscanthus into energy could be handled by our current power utilities, but a new thermal-pressure conversion method is likely to be more effective. This process may be able to convert biomass into biodiesel with an energy efficiency of 75 percent.

The confidences of the farmer and consumer as well as the creation of markets for this biomass and further research are necessary before implementation begins. As for M. x giganteus itself, it has been completely unimproved for the trials at U of I. It is thought that there is potential to increase its yield, similar to the improvements made to corn over the last 50 years. We're still a long way from your average consumer being able to use miscanthus produced energy, but the evidence so far shows a promising alternative to fossil fuels. Find out more at: miscanthus.illinois.edu

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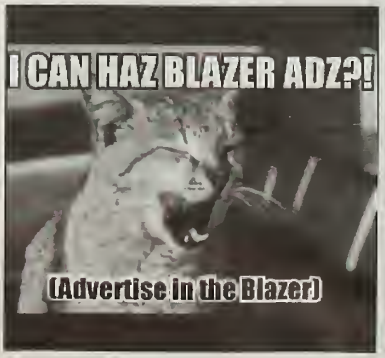

"I enjoyed the ABS program. It's about dealing with people in everyday situations... You learn how to understand how people think and why they do the things they do or say the things they say. It fits into any career because you deal with people no matter where you are."

—Sharon Hayes
B.A. in Applied Behavioral Sciences (ABS)
M.S. in Human Resource Management and Development

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NLU
I got it here.

Field
from page 1

Slocum, local WJOL morning host and JJC alumnus served as master of ceremonies.

JJC President Dr. Gena Proulx and Mark Smith, a former player of King's during the 1991 and 1992 seasons and an assistant coach at JJC with King from 1995 to 2006, gave remarks and then revealed the new scoreboard adorned with King's name.

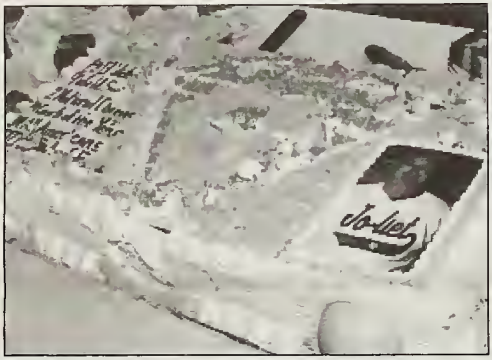
During his tenure at JJC, King has established Joliet as one of the most successful Division III baseball programs in the NJCAA. Under his leadership, the college has won 13 Region IV titles and two national championships, including the 2008 World Series title.

King attended Beaver Local High School in East Liverpool, OH. He was a three-sport athlete there and earned 12 varsity letters in football, basketball and baseball.

He holds a bachelor's and master's degree from Ohio University in Athens, OH, where he was admitted with a baseball scholarship and was a four-year starting catcher.

He is a member of the Region IV Hall of Fame as a Coach/Administrator as well as the Beaver Local High School (Ohio) Athletic Hall of Fame.

On May 22, 2009, King was inducted into the NJCAA Baseball Coaches Hall of Fame at the NJCAA Division I World Series in Grand Junction, Colo. At 50 years old, King is the youngest coach to ever to be inducted.



At 50, Wayne King is the youngest coach to ever be inducted into the NJCAA Baseball Coaches Hall of Fame. From top (clockwise), King addresses crowd gathered at the dedication. A baseball-themed cake is shown that includes King's photo and stats. King hugs his wife Janine at the ceremony. *Photos by Kat Boehle*

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"One of my biggest fears was that we would have a boring trip, which would lead to a boring chapter."
MARTY ESSEN

World
from page 1

Minutes, which is the multimedia version of Essen's book. Essen has been performing this show at colleges, zoos, museums and other venues since the release of his book.

Cool Creatures, Hot Planet: Exploring the Seven Continents is about the travel of Marty and Deb Essen visiting each individual continent in search of rare and interesting wildlife. After each travel, Essen says that he would write a chapter.

"One of my biggest fears was that we would have a boring trip, which would lead to a boring chapter," said Essen. "Luckily, something magical happened on every trip like being surrounded by wolves in Canada or stalking Spanish ibex in Spain."

Essen says that he had originally not planned on writing a book, but that it just sort of happened. After visiting the Amazon River and Rainforest, he had published a newspaper article in a couple of local newspapers and they were a huge hit. This inspired Essen and his wife to visit a few more places, and he soon discovered that no one else had written a book on the concept of finding rare wildlife in all seven continents.

Essen says that it was the best decision he's ever made considering that Cool Creatures, Hot Planet is now an internationally published book that has won six National awards including National Indie Excellence 2007 Book Award for Travel/Essay, 2007 Benjamin Franklin Award for Travel/Essay and the 2009 Green Book Festival Award for Animals, to name a few.

Now that Essen has visited all seven continents and written an award winning book, he plans on continuing to perform his show, Around the World in 50 Minutes, across the country.

In addition to this, Essen is going to be guest hosting a trip to Botswana, Africa for the Oglebay's Good Zoo of Wheeling, W. Va. sometime in 2010 and advises anyone interested in this trip to contact him at Marty@CoolCreaturesHotPlanet.com for more information.

For more information, photos, tours, and to purchase Essen's book, Cold Creatures, Hot Planet, visit http://www.CoolCreaturesHotPlanet.com.

Marty Essen hoids a 7.5 foot-iong Amethystine python. *Photo Courtesy of Chris Leach*

"Benedictine seemed right for me because of the intimate nature of the community."

It's not exactly "Cheers" – our patrons actually work – but Benedictine University's warmth and welcoming environment appealed to Taylor Deatherage. "I've always come from small schools where everyone knows each other," she said. "Benedictine University seemed right for me just because of the intimate nature of the community as well as the student-to-teacher ratio. I have also always gone to private schools and Benedictine is an excellent one."

Deatherage did not waste any time immersing herself in all that Benedictine University offers. The Honors Program student became involved with the Concert and Chamber Choirs, Campus Ministry and Students for Life, all while carrying a full course load and working two on-campus jobs. "It's certainly never dull," Deatherage said. "You can really learn a lot from other people, and I have met many, many people through the activities I am involved with on campus. Just learning about people's backgrounds and their past experiences in organizations has really opened my eyes to a lot of things.

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Carry the Light

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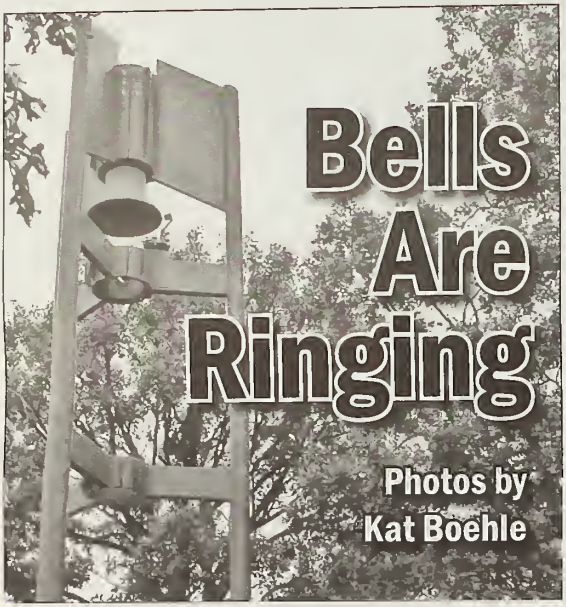


Bells Are Ringing

Photos by Kat Boehle

On Oct. 1, JJC hosted a 40th anniversary rededication of the alumni bell. T-shirts were handed out with the new college logo to all who attended. On Oct. 2, those who wore their JJC bell t-shirt received discounts in the bookstore and cafeteria.

Gayle Glasscock Crompton,'64, tells the crowd the story of how her father Bill saved the bell--which was formerly housed in the old Will County Courthouse before it was demolished in 1968--and brought it to the Joliet Junior College Main Campus to be preserved.

The Hole Truth

Tools for achieving holistic wellness

NIKKI SPENCER
Staff Writer

As a student of psychology with a focus in mind-body medicine, I wanted to take an opportunity to share some pearls of wisdom about how to remain happy and healthy, not only in the times we are facing, but over a lifetime.

With school, work, family and other significant relationships, it is wonder how we find any time for ourselves. By integrating a few of these tools into your daily life, you'll find yourself feeling more relaxed, peaceful, connected and all around holistically healthy and happy.

I must first begin by defining holistic. Although holistic has many different definitions depending on the perspective it is coming from, I am going to define holistic in terms of how you can have a holistic lifestyle.

To be holistic means to be well rounded biologically, psychologically, socially and spiritually. Biologically means your physical health, your diet and how often you exercise. Psychologically means your sense of wellbeing, as if you feel constantly under stress or if you can relax in hard times.

Socially means your contentment in your social relationships with friends and family. Spiritually means your feelings of connectedness and a sense of purpose in your life.

Some tools that can help you achieve holistic wellness include being mindful of how you treat your body, having a positive outlook, being appreciative of yourself and having gratitude for others.

Being mindful of how you treat your body includes drinking enough water (8 glasses a day), eating nutritious healthy meals, getting enough sleep and staying active.

One of the best ways to have a positive outlook is through reframing your thoughts, which includes seeing problems as opportunities, focusing on the positive and being realistic about your expectations. To show yourself appreciation, try using positive self talk, for example instead of saying "I'm stupid, I can't do this" instead say "I can do this, I'm trying my best."

Also try doing something special for yourself such as setting up "me" time, taking yourself out to dinner or pampering yourself. Having gratitude for others not only makes them feel good, but it makes you feel good too.

You can show gratitude by telling people directly, writing them a thank you letter, or keeping a personal journal to write what and who you are grateful for.

By using these tools together, you will benefit the "whole" you. Sometimes life can move so fast that we forget to slow down to pay attention to ourselves and others. So take a few breaths, and give yourself some time to practice these tools.

Peace and happiness are a continual process. You have to apply tools and techniques each day to achieve and maintain a continual sense of health, happiness, and wellbeing.

InTEXTicated

from page 1

Walk down the hall at school. Take a glance around the classroom. Look when you're out to eat. Anywhere you are and anywhere you go, there is usually someone on their cell phone texting. It seems harmless to multi-task and reply to a text message. However, it becomes harmful when one tries texting while driving.

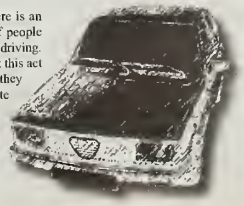
It happens time and time again. A person believes that they can drive, get ready for work and eat, without it being a risk. It is rare to find a person who hasn't done one of the two in their driving lifetime.

Now, however, there is an increasing amount of people who are texting while driving. If a person thinks that this act is harmless, then they are not thinking quite clearly.

Texting requires at least one hand to type and a glance at the phone to ensure that the correct words are being written. This means that drivers who are texting have one hand off of the steering wheel and are more than likely looking away from the road for a few seconds at a time. An accident can happen in a fraction of a second. Focusing on anything other than the road for even a second could have fatal results.

According to statistics from Edgarsynder.com, 21% of fatal car accidents every year involving drivers between the ages of 16 and 24 are due to cell phone usage. Texting resulted in roughly 1,000 car accidents in 2007. The Harvard Center for Risk Analysis found that 2,600 people die every year as a direct result of using cell phones.

Don't be a statistic.



JJC alum brings a different perspective to students with new sociology course

MARK NOEL
Staff Writer

Professor Dennis Doyle has a bold new class this semester. It has taken a year and a half to bring his idea to fruition.

This semester at JJC, for the first time ever, students have the opportunity to take a sociology class on the studies of war, peace, and conflict taught by a former JJC student. Doyle was inspired by the parlance of his times.

The cold war, the Reagan 1980s, and the militarization of the United States were a common thread among his peers. His father was a Navy "Beachmaster" and owned a lot of history books that Doyle read growing up.

Doyle has helped put JJC on a short list of community colleges throughout the country to offer such a class. It was not always a smooth road to the class though.

"There was a lot of bureaucracy involved," said Doyle.

The class had to pass through many committees and the state of Illinois before he was able to begin teaching it, though he says it was definitely worth it. Being a former JJC student, he has a lot of pride and hope for this school.

"Students at JJC have a great advantage being offered 10 different sociology courses," said Doyle.

"Students at JJC have a great advantage being offered 10 different sociology courses."
PROFESSOR DENNIS DOYLE

Before coming to JJC, he did a lot in the community, working for charities, helping at-risk youth, adamantly trying to keep kids in school.

He is also a student himself seeking his second masters in history through American Public University. Doyle has been at JJC for 10 years and sees himself here in the future.

Doyle's extensive knowledge and the brevity of the curriculum are both apparent in the lectures. For anyone that is interested, the new class being offered is SOC 265 and it is a new opportunity that Doyle would love people to explore.

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STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

JJC just right for Coal City graduate

LAUREN BUDDE

"I loved being out on the field and being a part of a team. And the competition was great!"

KELSIE LOFDAHL
Copy Editor

Leaving her high school days behind, 2009 Coal City High School graduate, Lauren Budde, now attends Joliet Junior College.

From sophomore to senior year, Budde played for her high school softball team and also played softball outside of school. Her position was left and right center outfield.

She was on several outside teams such as New Lenox Lighting Softball Team, Morris Magic, T-ball and two years of travel ball.

"I loved being out on the field and being a part of a team," said Budde. "And the competition was great!"

Coming to an end with softball and high school, Budde attends JJC for a few reasons. "It's so much closer to home, affordable, and I really like the JJC community," said Budde.

She hopes to accomplish her goal of an Associate's Degree in Child Education. She would like to specialize in becoming a kindergarten teacher.

"I really like kids and I look forward to being able to work with them and teach them so many things."

After JJC, Budde plans on transferring to a four-year college, but isn't exactly sure where she would like to transfer to. She wants to remain local and is considering the University of St. Francis or Lewis University.

JJC Theater presents...

God's Favorite

Photos by Kat Boehle

The Joliet Junior College Fine Arts Department presented "God's Favorite" by Neil Simon Oct. 1 through Oct. 4 in the Fine Arts Theatre. The production was directed by Nicki Blowers. Cast members included James Jagos, Paige Hutchinson, Mark Parker, Kyle Wynn, Nathan Borowski, Travis Cisco, Cynthia Y. Cooper and Taylor Murphy.

COLD BLOODED CREATURES

Photos By Kat Boehle

ON SEPT. 30 ON THE BRIDGE, JIM NESCI BROUGHT HIS REPTILE SHOW TO JJC AGAIN. THE SHOW ENTERTAINED AND EDUCATED THE AUDIENCE ABOUT DIFFERENT REPTILES, SUCH AS ALLIGATORS, TORTOISES, AND EVEN PYTHONS. SOME MEMBERS OF THE AUDIENCE WERE ABLE TO HOLD THE REPTILES. AN ALLIGATOR WAS ALLOWED TO WALK NEAR THE FEET OF AUDIENCE MEMBERS.

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'Good Hair'

Chris Rock brings unique documentary to movie audiences

MATT SHEEHAN
Staff Writer

Comedian-actor Chris Rock may be known more for his cutting stand-up comedy on race, politics, African-American culture and relationships, among many other topics of interest.

But hair?

Sure, it may not be a stand-up comedy film, but Good Hair, a documentary exploring African-American hairstyles and the people and products involved, Chris Rock is both star and executive producer, carrying his brand of the humor for the ride.

This unique documentary subject has long been a dream project of sorts for Rock, and he sat down to discuss it recently.

It all started in 1990 while Rock was in Atlanta recording an album and was introduced to the Bronner Bros. International Hair Show, the opus of hair conventions that culminates in a styling competition.

"I tried talking to some girl, and she was a hair model at the Bronner Bros. Show," said Rock. "She invited me to the show, and it just blew my mind. From that moment on, I wanted to make a movie about the show."

Fame wasn't something that Rock had at that moment, in addition to a lack of such subjects explored in documentaries. It wasn't until Rock's daughter began to question her hair—is it good?

"Then you go on 17 years later," said Rock. "I have daughters talking about their hair and I was like 'Hmm, maybe I'll pick up that idea.'"

When Rock's daughter first brought up her young concern over her hair, Rock played sweet daddy to her.

"The more you react, the more it's an issue, so when my daughter did say the thing about the hair I kind of just played it off and said, 'Aw, come on, you've got good hair,'" he said. "I kept it moving because if I would have stopped, she would have a complex about her hair."

In the documentary, Rock interviews people ranging from actress Nia Long and Raven Simone to the Rev. Al Sharpton and Maya Angelou. Picking favorites is hard with such esteemed on-screen counterparts.

"[Nia] was just great on camera, but while I was doing the movie it was probably Maya

See Hair page 12

MAYDAY MAYDAY

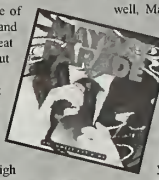
Reviewed by Ryan Kelley

Mayday Parade avoids crash-landing with new album

October brings us new releases by many intriguing pop punk bands of today's music scene. With the upcoming release of new albums by Relient K, Cartel, Sherwood, Rocket to the Moon and more, fans of this genre have much to look forward to.

But out of all these bands, pressured the most is Mayday Parade. After they put out *Lesson In Romantics* in July '07, a valuable member of the band chose to leave them. Jason Lancaster, lead vocalist/ main songwriter/guitarist left Mayday Parade due to personal reasons and later formed Go Radio.

Now while many say Lancaster is a missing quality from the band that cannot be replaced, it can be also be said that the release of their second full-length album *Anywhere But Here* is an opportunity for Mayday Parade to prove to fans and haters that they are capable of bouncing back and producing a great album without Lancaster.



To begin, let me tell you, if you start listening to this album with high expectations, then you might as well toss it out the window already. While there are not many standouts, I can tell you that *Anywhere But Here* does not feature anything terrible either. The best word to honestly describe it is 'average.'

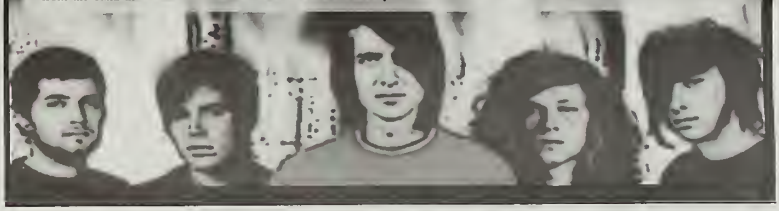
In comparing it to *Lesson In Romantics*, this album lacks emotion, lengthy song titles, and the vocal harmonies that makes Mayday Parade… well, Mayday Parade. The instrumentation and catchy choruses have stuck with Mayday Parade.

Unfortunately on *Anywhere But Here*, they give you catchiness that will typically last a week then flow out of your head. Fans are forced to say farewell to the back and forth singing between Derek Saunders and Lancaster.

Say hello to Saunders being the spotlight for Mayday Parade, who most likely aimed for fans to forget about Lancaster's absence with this release.

Even with the loss of Lancaster, this album is a solid effort for the band. For example, if a football team were to lose their star running back, they would not score nearly as many points as before.

So throw *Anywhere But Here* in a different league from *Lesson In Romantics* and don't be surprised if when you hear this album, they sound like a new band. They have still scored some points rather than leaving you with a big fat zero on the scoreboard .



Ellen Hopkins still has 'Tricks' up her sleeve

SHEILA AIMI
Staff Writer

Ellen Hopkins has done it again, with her newest book Tricks, creating yet another outstanding verse-written book.

All of Hopkins books deal with various issues that numerous teens have to deal with in America today. Her latest book, Tricks, deals with first-times, drugs, sexual identities and prostitution along the main characters' road to finding themselves.

Tricks is broken up into five sections; one section for each of the main characters. The main characters include Eden, Seth, Whitney, Ginger and Cody, all of which are various ages and have different sexual preferences, different religious views, as well as different goals in life.

The first character we meet is Eden, a down to Earth, well-behaved Christian. Eden is around 15-16 years old, and has always been religious. She has never had the thought of having sex, let alone going against God, until she meets Andrew. After Andrew, Eden's life goes from being normal to beyond abnormal.

Next we are introduced to Seth, a farm town high school senior from Indiana. Seth is also Christian, but after his mother's death, he finally begins to come out of the closet, and be open about being homosexual.

Following Seth we meet Whitney, she is around 17, and is the black sheep in her family living under her sister Kyra's shadow.

Whitney is just trying to get her mother to accept her, as well as find her way in life. Although guys like Lucas and Bryn are probably not the answers to her problems.

Next we encounter Ginger, a young freshman in high school forced to grow up far too fast. Ginger's mother is a prostitute, and leaves Ginger alone almost all day to watch her siblings and help her grandmother around the house.

Ginger eventually finds an outlet for her pain as well as a way to get the love she misses from her mother. In some cases it is just better to hold your pain in rather than let it out.

Finally we meet Cody, a high school student from Nevada, just trying to deal with his hormones and keep his family together. After a death in the family and an involvement in drugs, Cody turns to gambling to try and make ends meet. Soon though gambling takes over his life and even his girlfriend Ronnie might not be able to save him.

By the end of the book all of the characters lives have become intertwined in the darkest corners of Los Angeles, Calif. At this point all of the characters have dealt with traumas, drugs, gambling and even prostitution.

The things they have been through all become intertwined, as these five teens struggle to survive, growing up a little too fast.

Hopkins will keep you reading and guessing until the end, trying to figure out how these people's lives will become one, as well as what consequences these characters will face or suffer through.

Hopkins will keep you reading and guessing until the end, trying to figure out how these people's lives will become one, as well as what consequences these characters will face or suffer through.

Overall Tricks is yet another amazing addition to Hopkins's poetic, teen-angst novels. This is a definite recommended must read, and if you like this book than you can also check out her other books titled Crank, Glass, Burned, Impulse and Identical.

GET INFORMED!

Soderberg's take on corporate corruption is a winner

REVIEWED BY ADRIANO VAZQUEZ

Steven Soderberg's new film *The Informant!* is a film I had been anticipating since I first saw the trailer in theaters a few months ago.

Upon viewing the trailer, what caught my attention was the black comedy humor, wacky style, a fat Matt Damon, and just the fact that it was the next Soderberg film. Could a film about corporate corruption wind up being good entertainment? The answer is yes.

The film is based on a true story (and book of the same name) about Mark Whitacre (played brilliantly by a somewhat unrecognizable Damon), who was an executive for a company called ADM (Archer Daniels Midland). ADM is a conglomerate that processes oil seeds and cereal grains into products such as food, beverages, industrial, etc.

The crisis in this story is that one night, Mark Whitacre confesses to FBI Agent Brian Shepard (Scott Bakula) that he and other ADM executives regularly met with other competitors in meetings that involved price fixing with lysine.

For the people who lack the intelligence in corporate terms (myself included), price fixing is an agreement between business competitors to sell the same product or service at the same price. Still confused? I don't blame you.

After confessing, Whitacre decides to become a whistleblower for the FBI and agrees to wear a wire. During the process of several years he collects hundreds of audio and videotapes to help build the case. However, everything is not what it seems.

As the second half of the movie starts to unfold, we learn of the true intentions of Whitacre and the twist involves stealing, kickbacks and a psychological disorder.

DAMON AS WHITACRE IS FASCINATING TO WATCH BECAUSE THIS IS NOT THE SAME DAMON THAT WE HAVE SEEN BEFORE.

The first half of the movie is brimming with style, as the film begins with 70's style music that is reminiscent of a film like *Chinatown*. This is obviously due to the trumpet jazz kind of sound.

Damon as Whitacre is fascinating to watch because this is not the same Damon that we have seen before. He gained 30 pounds for the role and instead of playing the smart and cunning Jason Bourne, Whitacre is a well intentioned, but dishonest business man.

One aspect of the film that is hilarious is the voiceover done by Damon as the character Whitacre reflects on everything. He talks about toro bull figbting, vending machines selling girls' underwear in Tokyo and even the german word for pen. Which is koo koo shwaba by the way. The film lets us get into the head of Whitacre but it doesn't reveal until the second half what he is really up to.

As I said before, the first half is brimming with humor and style, but the second half might turn some heads because the story gets dark very quickly. Some might find the first half boring and the second half engaging; others might be the complete opposite. For me, it was both. I loved the first half and the second half all the same. As we learn the truth behind everything that is going on, you just cannot help but be fascinated with what is going on.

The Informant! is great entertainment. The performances are terrific; the story never loses focus, and the risks and storytelling techniques that director Soderberg uses work brilliantly. You will not be disappointed with *The Informant!*; it is one of the best films I have seen all year.

Hair from page 11

Angelou," said Rock. "She was telling me stories about all of these old, black celebrities like Cab Callaway, Sammy Davis [Jr.] and all of these people."

And yet, with the fame and notoriety that came with the interviewees, celebrity was never a factor, according to Rock.

"The topic is a topic in which all that other famous crap goes out of the window," he said. "There is just something about the topic that just strips all of that stuff away."

Rock hopes what doesn't get taken away from the film by audiences is that he is out to make a huge expectancy for social change.

"Health care is a social problem, children born to really young mothers that can't take care of them is a social problem," said Rock. "This is an interesting issue; I wouldn't call it a social problem."

> *"This movie will change hair the same way 'We Are the World' got rid of world hunger—it's not going to happen."*
> CHRIS ROCK

"I am absolutely not trying to start a change of any sort," he continued. "I am trying to make a funny movie that is entertaining and thought-provoking. This movie will change hair the same way 'We Are the World' got rid of world hunger—it's not going to happen. Movies don't do that, music doesn't do that, it's just something that makes the good times and bad times in your life better."

Now that he's handled his dream project, where does Rock want to take documentary filmmaking next?

"I don't know what is as good as the hair and that can be something funny, too," said Rock. "The hair, it's political and it's sexy. This was a passion project, and I don't want to do another [documentary] just because this one worked."

Like a perfectly-styled 'do, Rock swirled and shouted his final answer to the top as we left. "It's just hair!"

Photo courtesy of Roadside Attractions

In the new documentary "Good Hair" comedian Chris Rock explores African-American hairstyles and the people and products involved.

Christofer Boeyink

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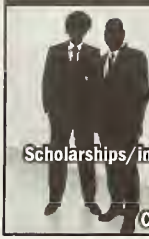

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Soccer

Lady Wolves prepare for playoff push

JIM SHELDON
Co-Editor-In-Chief

The Joliet Junior College women's soccer team is currently on a two game winning streak with two games remaining in the regular season. The Lady Wolves will look to finish strong in preparation for the Region IV Tournament where you want to be playing your best soccer.

The Lady Wolves won their second game in a row on Oct. 7, defeating N4C conference opponent Triton College 3-1 in River Grove. Freshman Defender Sara Bock scored 2 goals for the Lady Wolves and freshman midfielder Yolanda Frederick scored the other goal.

Sophomore goalkeeper Michelle Del Sarto made 11 saves and stopped 2 penalty kicks for the Lady Wolves who improved to 4-9-1 overall and 1-5 in the N4C.

"The biggest struggle for us has been incorporating a majority of new players with just a few veterans, and the reassigning of positions due to season ending injuries," said head coach Gino Di Nardo.

The Lady Wolves snapped a two-game losing streak on Oct. 5 shutting out South Suburban College 3-0 in Joliet. Bock, Frederick and Courtney Divita scored goals for JJC.

Frederick, Sarah Garcia and Mary Grace Leinweber had assists. Goalkeeper Del Sarto made 7 saves and recorded her third shutout of the season.

Del Sarto has done a little bit of everything for the Lady Wolves this season. She has totaled 139 saves for the year, just 13 shy of her school record of 152 which she set last year.

On Sept. 19, she scored the Lady Wolves lone goal on a penalty kick in a 1-1 tie after two overtimes. She also had 16 saves in the contest. She is also tied for the team-high in assists with two, along with Leinweber.

Bock is leading the team in goals with five and Frederick is second with three goals.

"Our final two games are against opponents we have not met before and I am quite sure the girls are up for the challenge," said Di Nardo. "Certainly two victories would be ideal but regardless of the outcome I would like to see the team's attitude remain high and use this new experience to ready us for our first playoff game at the end of the month."

The Lady Wolves will wrap up the season at home against Daley College on Oct. 15. Game-time is scheduled for 4 p.m.

Wolves
from page 16

again for an 8-yard score. A blocked extra point put Joliet down 34-7.

Joliet would once again be forced to punt on their next possession and Therriault put the exclamation point on his afternoon with a 60-yard touchdown run with 2:43 left in the third quarter and following a two-point conversion made it 42-7.

"That is a very good team," said Richardson. "I don't know if they are the best team we have played this year, but there is a reason they are undefeated. I give a lot of credit to their coaching staff."

Walley came into the game averaging 282 yards through the air, but was held to just 145 yards on 14-34 passing, including an interception. It was his first game without a passing touchdown.

"Their defense played well, but we didn't execute to the best of our ability collectively; Chris is a competitor and is going to fight the whole time out there," said Richardson.

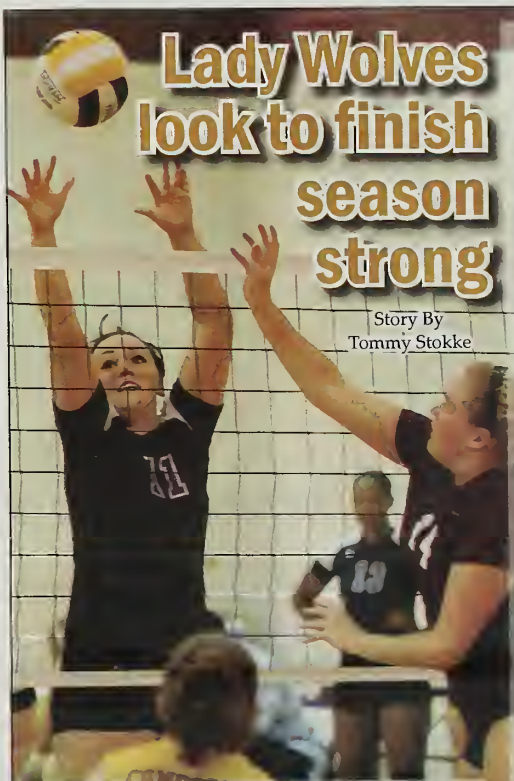
The Wolves currently sit at 4-3 with two games left. They travel to Harper College next week.

"We have to focus on staying together," said Richardson. "Technically, we have lost three games in a row so we can either crumble or fight back. We've been saying put up or shut up the last three weeks. Although we've played three ranked teams, we are not putting up and shutting up ourselves."

"I'm not going to take anything away from this game and all my focus is on Harper right now because we need that game more than any game this year."

Lady Wolves look to finish season strong

Story By Tommy Stokke



Britney Powers jumps to try to block the ball against Concordia University's junior varsity team. *Photo by Mike DiNovo*

With a record of 10-19, the JJC women's volleyball team is struggling to find momentum with heading into the conclusion of their season.

JJC recently put together a two-game winning streak before dropping matches to Illinois Valley Community College as well as Lincoln College. However, spirits rose following the wins against Waubonsee Community College and Concordia. That was short lived though, with JJC falling into a four game losing streak in which they lost each in straight sets. They have rebounded since with a win against Waubonsee, but fell to College of DuPage. Despite the struggles, head coach, LaKisha Cameron, is noticing positives.

"We are really starting to come together as a team," said Cameron following a loss to Mount Mercy College.

In that contest, the Wolves were led by Amie Hogan with 16 assists and April Veronda who tallied 11 digs.

A bright note on the season has been the play of Hogan. Her play and leadership has impressed Cameron thus far this season. She leads the team with 616 assists. She had a season high 43 against Triton College. Hogan has also contributed a team-high 48 aces.

"She has really been a great leader for our team and stepped up when we needed it," said Cameron.

Verdonda has been handling much of the attack. She leads the team with 263 kills. The sophomore out of Coal City, Ill, contributed a season-high 18 kills against Judson College. She also leads the team with 204 digs, as well.

Freshman Emilee Ziesmer has been the force at the net for the Wolves. She leads the team with 55 blocks.

JJC will wrap up their regular season with games against Madison Area Tech, Moraine Valley, and Rock Valley, including the "Dig Pink" game, which supports the fight against breast cancer. That game will be played on Oct. 20 at 6 p.m. Admission is free.

The Blazer would like to congratulate athletic director and head baseball coach Wayne King on having the baseball field renamed in his honor.

Men's soccer

Wolves hope to end season on high note

ANDREW SANTILLO
Staff Writer

Consistency has been an issue for the Joliet Junior College men's soccer team this season. They win a couple games and then lose a couple games.

The Wolves shut out N4C conference opponent Kankakee Community College 2-0, in their most recent game on Oct. 7. The win pushed their record to 6-7 overall and 4-4 in the N4C. Midfielder Andrew Beltran and forward Maberik Martinez scored for the Wolves and goalkeeper Robert Reyes had four saves.

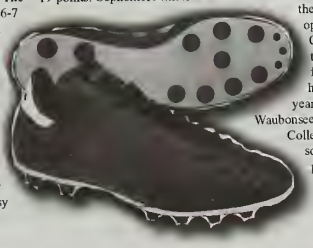
The Wolves fell to Morton College 3-1 on Oct. 3. Beltran had the team's lone goal, and goalkeeper Eriberto Gonzalez had a busy day in the net with six saves.

Prior to the game against Morton, the Wolves were defeated by N4C opponent Madison Area Technical College 4-1 on Sept. 30. Beltran scored the lone goal and was assisted by Troy Behning. Reyes had 2 saves at goal.

Sophomore forward Arturo Rios is having a big year for the Wolves. He is leading the team in scoring with nine goals and 19 points. Sophomore midfielder Ahmad Rashid is leading the team in assists with four and goalkeepers Reyes and Gonzalez have recorded 26 and 24 saves, respectively.

With three games left in the regular season, the Wolves will look to finish strong in preparation for the Region IV Tournament which starts on Oct. 24.

The Wolves will look to get back to .500 on Oct. 14, when they travel to N4C opponent Harper College. Game-time is scheduled for 4 p.m. The final home game of the year is Oct. 19 against Waubonsee Community College. Game-time is scheduled for 3:30 p.m.



Tight end Brandon Williams hauls in a pass against Grand Rapids on Oct. 10.

Photo by Mike DiNovo

Wolves overpowered by Grand Rapids 51-7

TOMMY STOKKE
Sports Editor

"Numerous things went wrong for us this game. It's hard to pinpoint just one thing."
HEAD COACH JEREMY RICHARDSON

Grand Rapids Community College found the end zone on their first four possessions and Joliet Junior College had no answer for sophomore quarterback Casey Therriault.

Therriault shredded the JJC defense for 216 yards in the air and 129 yards on the ground and a total of six touchdowns as the Raiders cruised to a 51-7 victory at Memorial Stadium on Oct. 10.

Joliet looked impressive on their opening drive. Sophomore quarterback Chris Walley hooked up with Alexis Reedus for a 39-yard pass down the right sideline. However, the Wolves would have to settle for a field goal attempt and the 37-yard attempt by Jason Owens fell just short.

Grand Rapids would waste little time getting on the scoreboard. After a 12-yard run by Phillip Mayberry, a play-action fake was executed to perfection as Therriault found Demonte Collins wide-open down field for a 68-yard touchdown.

On Joliet's next drive, Walley would find Donny Shwaga for gains of 12 and 1 yard before a fumble gave possession back to Grand Rapids.

Seven plays later Therriault would take it in the end zone himself for a 6-yard score with 4:22 remaining in the first quarter.

After a Joliet punt, the Raiders would take ten plays before Therriault found Collins once again, this time for a 27-yard score to put Grand Rapids on top 21-0.

Grand Rapids would force another punt on JJC's next possession. Following a holding penalty, Grand Rapids faced a third and 13 before Therriault hit an open Collins for a 12-yard gain setting up a fourth and one. Therriault kept the ball himself and ran past Joliet defenders for a 47-yard touchdown run.

Facing a 28-0 deficit, the Wolves offense took the field trying to orchestrate a rhythm of their own. Walley found Shwaga in the corner of the end zone for what appeared to be the first score of the game for the Wolves, however the line judge ruled Shwaga out-of-bounds.

On third and 13 Walley hit tight end Brandon Williams for a 14-yard gain. Three plays later Walley kept it himself and slipped between Grand Rapid defenders for an 8-yard score to bring the Wolves within 28-7 at half time.

"Numerous things went wrong for us this game," said second-year coach Jeremy Richardson. "It's hard to pinpoint just one thing."

After trading the ball back-and-forth to start the second half, Grand Rapids put together a seven play drive before the Therriault-Collins combination connected

See Wolves page 15

ALEXIS REEDUS

MALE ATHLETE OF THE ISSUE

Arturo Rios is leading the men's soccer team with 19 points following their game against Kankakee. The sophomore out of Plainfield, Ill., had his biggest game of the season during a four-goal performance against Milwaukee Tech. He also scored twice against Harper College. Look for more from Arturo as the men's soccer team ends the season against Heartland Community College and Waubonsee Community College.

ARTURO RIOS

FEMALE ATHLETE OF THE ISSUE

BY TOMMY STOKKE

Michelle Del Sarto is the leading goalkeeper for the women's soccer team this year. She has stopped 139 of the 177 shots against her. She had a season-high 20 saves against Harper College and also saving 16 shots against Rochester Community & Technical College. Del Sarto, who attended Plainfield Central High School, leads the lady Wolves into the last game of the season against Parkland College.

MICHELLE DEL SARTO

Joliet Junior College
BLAZER
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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2009 VOLUME 82 ISSUE 3

Wolves catch a tough break page 16

News

JJC raises awareness for World Food Day

ELIZABETH HAUSSMANN
Staff Writer

Hunger and poverty are devastating problems that impact everyone. Recently, Joliet Junior College brought students together to fight against hunger in their community and also to raise awareness of the global hunger crisis.

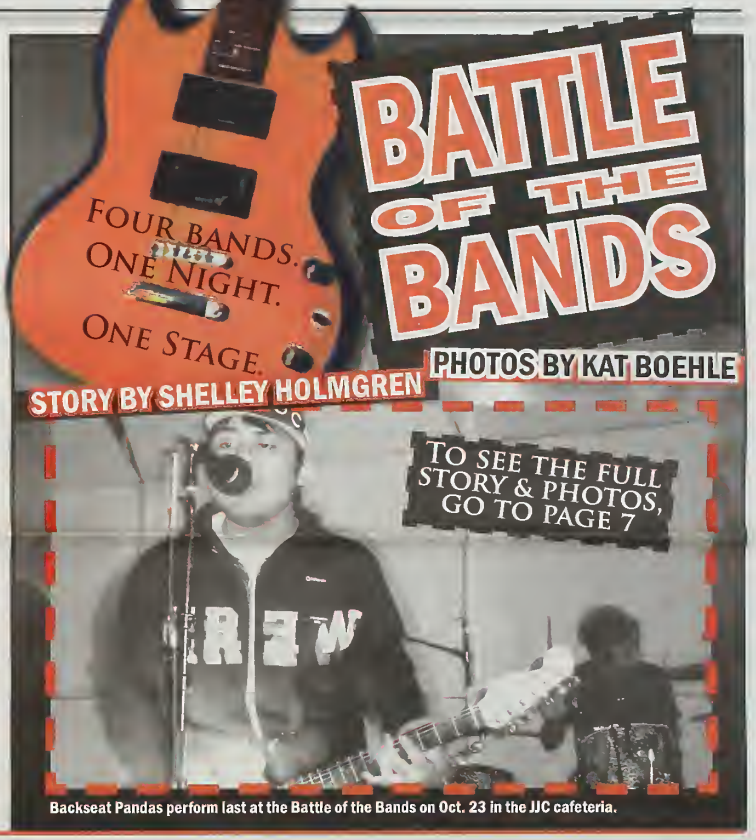
Since 1981, World Food Day has helped to increase awareness of the devastating poverty and hunger that plague third world nations. Oct.16, 2009 marked the 29th annual celebration of World Food Day.

At JJC, Phi Theta Kappa, the Honors Program, StAR and the Epicurean Club collaborated in the promotion of World Food Day's mission, to "increase awareness, understanding and informed, year-around action to alleviate hunger."

The showing of the World Food Day teleconference, hosted by the Honors Program, on Oct. 16, kicked off the beginning of World Food Week at JJC.

Donation boxes were placed around campus in an effort to collect canned food donations.

See Food page 5



Backseat Pandas perform last at the Battle of the Bands on Oct. 23 in the JJC cafeteria.

Domestic violence week comes to JJC

KELSIE LOFDAHL
Copy Editor

On Thursday, Oct. 22, from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m., Domestic Violence Awareness celebrated its 5th annual panel meeting. With the conference room filled with faculty, staff, and students more people had attended this meeting than ever before.

Some of you may not know, but the month of October is known as Domestic Violence Awareness month. This month celebrates survivors of domestic violence, honors those who were lost to domestic violence and creates awareness to domestic violence.

At this panel meeting, there were many speakers speaking against domestic violence and what others can do to prevent it from happening. The first speaker was Heather Meyers, Assist. State's Attorney, who was assisted by Kathy Craven, an advocate, in which they spoke about "Domestic Violence and the Law."

Meyers stated that domestic violence was a crime known as battery. It is a felony and offenders are arrested, and when arrested, reports go to the office. There is a separate unit that deals with domestic violence and with that separate unit, is a separate court room. Cases/reports are reviewed for charges, and when charged, the offender is put in jail.

This is where Craven comes in and is the advocate for the victims, telling the victims what they should do and helping them through the court process. Unfortunately, 90% of victims of domestic violence become uncooperative and do not follow through with charges because they only want their offender to get help.

Following Meyers speech was Carrie Clausen. Clausen use to work in management for domestic violence, but left to work in counseling. She gave her speech on "The Cycle of Violence, Perpetrators Characteristics" and why it has

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The Registration Blues

EDITORIAL

It is registration season again and with it comes frustration and confusion. For those of us who preferred to register at midnight when priority registration opened on the 18th, those two aforementioned feelings appeared to be spread for JJC students.

Facebook was filled with angry statuses from JJC students that night, and I myself was included in that. There was not a status untouched by an angered, frustrated, or unsatisfied student that had dealt with the extra stress brought on by staying up to register with no success.

After an hour and a half of attempting to gain access to eResources registration, I finally gave up, went to bed and hoped the issue would be resolved in the morning. It was allowing access the following day, but for some courses it would only pull up a blank results section.

We're sure we weren't the only students screaming expletives at the screen after the first hour of sitting and waiting and attempting to log-in to just be finished with the process of registering.

The most bothersome part of it all was the giant tease eResources was being. One would attempt to log-in along with the masses and would find themselves staring at the dreaded error message of doom: "The maximum number of sessions has been reached. Please try again shortly."

Having experienced this in the past, information is re-entered, and log-in is attempted again, and again, and again.

When, alas, we are finally granted access to eResources to register, and excited that we finally are allowed in, we go to click the Register for Sections button and are greeted yet again by another error message of doom: "The maximum number of sessions has been reached. Please try again shortly. There is insufficient data to display a form."

For a school of so many students, we're not quite sure if IT needs to invest a few pretty pennies into a larger server, or if we all just feel we have somehow broken the internet and it's completely out of anyone's control. Either way, something needs to be done to ensure a quicker, less dreaded registration process.

This student has reached their maximum number of frustration sessions. There is insufficient server space to display their happiness. Please try again .

What Not to Wear: Halloween costume edition

JIM SHELDON
Co-Editor-In-Chief

Ok I'll admit that as a youngster, I looked forward to dressing up as various characters and going trick-or-treating, (didn't spend that much money on costumes, I believe I had three. Hippies are still in, right?) As I grew up though, the thought of spending ludicrous amounts of money on a costume that I'm going to wear once, seemed rather foolish to me *so alas, I didn't do it.*

Looking at some of the ridiculous costumes out this year, I'm thinking people will regret spending $50 to go as something really offensive. Speaking of offensive, I'm sure you've all heard about the illegal alien costume that has been in the news recently.

For those of you that haven't, Forum Novelties, a manufacturer out of New York, released an illegal alien costume complete with a mask of an alien, an orange jumpsuit that has illegal alien written across the front of it and an oversized green card.

Target and Walgreens were among the stores that added the costume to their inventories. As soon as I came across this, I thought to myself, this is going to cause quite the stir.

And sure enough I was right. The next day there was another story from Cnn.com which mentioned that the Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles had received emails from concerned *legal immigrants.*

The coalition responded by writing a letter asking retailers such as Target, Walgreens and Amazon.com, to stop selling the product. Target stopped selling it, saying that it was accidentally uploaded to their site due to a data entry error. Some stores and sites are still selling the costume.

There's a fine line between funny and offensive and this costume crossed it. I can understand why people were upset over something that's really not that funny to begin with. Immigration isn't something that makes me crack up.

The tasteless illegal alien costume got me thinking of other offensive costumes that should be avoided. You may get cheap laughs and have the most creative costume, but you may also offend someone and who knows what could happen.

If you want to dance like Michael, walk like Michael and talk like Michael, more power to you. Some people don't even need a costume for that.

For starters, let's talk about Michael Jackson. Yes, you knew I was going there. People seem to love to dress up as dead celebrities and yes Michael Jackson you are really dead (thank you, South Park).

If you want to dance like Michael, walk like Michael and talk like Michael, more power to you. Some people don't even need a costume for that.

But where I draw the line, is the kid's Michael Jackson costume, that's an oxymoron if I've ever heard one. If you allow your kid to go as Michael Jackson, there is seriously something wrong with you and you should go get checked out.

Another popular choice according to NBC this year will likely be Kanye West (yes Kanye, we haven't forgotten about you, hate to burst your bubble). If you're feeling daring, you could try the maze haircut, but then you're stuck with that for at least a month and really who wants that? For those "smart" people, you could wear a black short sleeved shirt with huge sunglasses, carry a fake microphone in your hand and interrupt people all night long. "IMA LET YOU FINISH!" What could possibly go wrong??

Another choice that should be reconsidered is the Anna Rexia costume. For those of you not familiar with this one, it's a sexy skeleton dress complete with a measuring tape for the belt. Wow, because eating disorders are a joke and sexy.

So if you're still looking for a costume and are looking to stand out and be the "life of the party," then choose one of these tasteless costumes, you'll stand out alright. However, if you have morals and don't want to offend people, choose something a little more conservative, like a pirate or Barrack Obama. I doubt you could offend anyone with those.

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The Student Trustee Report

with Darren Newenhouse

On Thursday, Oct. 15th, students from Joliet Junior College, including myself, went down to the capitol in Springfield, Ill. to attend the student rally for the Monetary Award Program (MAP) Grants, as well as lobby legislators.

Nicole Spencer, Ryan Gue, Allyson Poljack, Marla Harris and Noel Salazar accompanied me. Amy Sims, the coordinator for the Holistic Wellness Program at JJC, served as our advisor and drove a JJC van. Jeff Julian, director of communications and external relations, also attended and arranged for us to meet JJC's lobbyist, as well as coordinated our meetings with key legislators in JJC's district.

Over 2000 students from schools all across the state of Illinois rallied in the state capitol to persuade legislators to restore funding to the MAP Grants. Times before and after the rally were designated for students to meet with their legislators and convince them of the importance of the grants to the 138,000 students throughout the state who received them in the fall. We, as representatives of JJC, met and talked with Senator A.J. Wilhelmi, Representative Jack McGuire and Representative Renee Kosel.

As a result of student efforts across the state of Illinois, state legislators have given Governor Quinn the authority to pay $205 million to fund the grants for the Spring 2010 semester. Governor Quinn signed the bill on Oct. 18th, allowing students and colleges to plan for the grants at that time. However, the source of funding for the grants is not exactly clear, and there are no concrete plans for being able to continue funding in future semesters.

Although regaining the funding for the Spring semester is an incredible victory for Illinois students, and for students at JJC, continual efforts will need to be made to ensure the future of MAP.

The best way to provide consistent pressure on legislators and the governor to maintain the MAP Grant Program is to contact them, visit them in person, or send them letters explaining your own personal experiences in paying for school and letting them know the impact it will have to lose funding for MAP.

I want to thank and acknowledge Jonathan Wilson, former JJC Student Trustee and current Student Commissioner on the Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC), and Dimitra Georgouses, former JJC Student Government President and current Board Chair for the Illinois Board of Higher Education Student Advisory Committee (IBHE-SAC), for their efforts in organizing students state-wide for the MAP Grant Rally and their input on the event itself.

I also want to thank Amy Sims and Jeff Julian, as well as the students from JJC who were able to attend the rally, who provided critical support to students at JJC by helping with rallying and lobbying efforts down in Springfield.

Finally, I want to thank JJC for sponsoring and supporting us going down to Springfield so we could make a difference for students at JJC who are counting on the MAP Grants to help pay for their college education. We did an excellent job!

As always, if you have any questions or concerns regarding this or anything else, please contact me at dnewen01@jjc.edu. I also have office hours at main campus in the student government office. They are posted around campus.

Dealing with anger

NIKKI SPENCER
Staff Writer

Anger is an emotion that we have all experienced that can range from mild irritation to full blown rage. Anger usually comes from a perception of an attack against our self or our ideas and we all have different ways of dealing with our anger.

Anger that is not dealt with can often have dire effects on our bodies, minds and relationships. In a study entitled "Anger Management: A Holistic Approach" from the Journal of the American Psychiatric Nurses Association, it states that a holistic approach to anger management can not only give you healthy ways to deal with anger, but also teach you how to change your perceptions about anger so that you can better handle anger provoking events in life.

Every individual has a different perception about the things that make them angry, and if we can change our thoughts, we can change our reactions.

According to the study, the most important thing to remember about anger is that it is not an event that causes anger, but what a person thinks about the event. We have all seen someone get overtly angry about something that we think is no big deal and vice versa. Every individual has a different perception about the things that make them angry and if we can change our thoughts, we can change our reactions.

Often times, our anger comes from a feeling of needing to be right or feeling that our ideas are being attacked because someone has a different opinion than us. Practicing open mindedness can help us to be tolerant of another's ideas and listen even if we think we might be right.

Having an open mind can help us decide if a situation, such as an argument, is really worth our time and energy or if it should be ignored. The study recommends asking yourself, "would I rather be right or happy?"

Anger also comes from the pent up stress of daily life. Often we become stressed through the hustle and bustle of school, work, family, friends, etc. and do not give ourselves anytime for relaxation or for the release of tension through physical activity. By practicing relaxation techniques daily such as meditation, breathing exercises and visualization, you can train your body to remember what it feels like to be in a relaxed state.

Then when you are presented with an anger provoking event, you can easily bring yourself into a relaxed state and deal with the event mindfully. Also, daily physical activity can help you to release stored up tension and cortisol (stress hormone), and release endorphins (feel good chemicals) that help you to relax and get a better night's sleep.

Two common misconceptions that the study explains about anger are that anger is bad, and that anger is not our fault. In truth, anger is not bad, it is an emotion, and it is how we deal with our anger that can be labeled as bad. Ask yourself if how you dealt with a situation was effective or ineffective and do not judge yourself in terms of bad or good.

Blaming others for our anger is also unhealthy because we are not taking responsibility for our emotions. When we take responsibility for our emotions we become more self aware, more attuned to our needs and more forgiving of ourselves.

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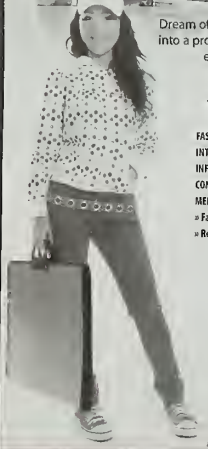

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The Write Stuff

JJC celebrates National Day on Writing

KAT BOEHLE
Photo Editor

Writing is something that everyone does, from taking notes in class, to sending your friend a text message. The National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) acknowledged this and wanted to draw attention to the variety of writing we engage in by having Oct. 20th, 2009 declared as the National Day on Writing.

NCTE contacted English professor and faculty advisor of JJC's creative arts magazine, the Wordeater, Adam Heidenreich, asking if he would help host the first annual National Day on Writing event at JJC. Indeed, on Oct. 20 Heidenreich, with the assistance of other English professors at JJC, set up the event.

The event included board games like Apples to Apples, Scrabble and Funglish, a board game, that students could openly play, along with Ad-Lib, a writing game.

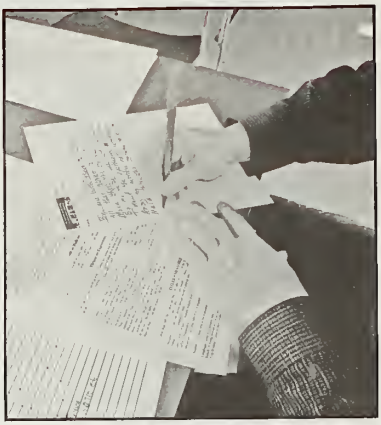
In addition, students could enter a variety of writing contests, such as the Talk Like Shakespeare Contest where students would take a modern song and translate a verse or two into a Shakespearean language.

Other contests included the Cut-Ups Poetry, Haiku, Open Mic, Postcard Story and Art Poem contests. The winners of each contest received $10 gift cards to Barnes & Noble.

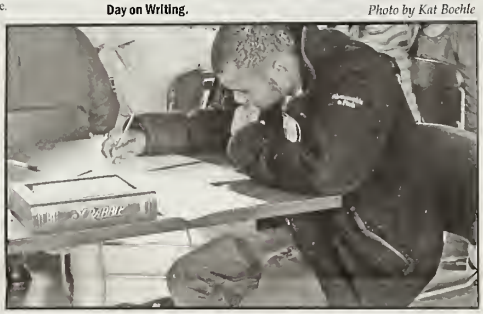
"I really liked the turn-out," said Heidenreich. "Especially considering that this is its first year, next year should be even better!"

Not only was there the National Day on Writing event on the bridge, but JJC students and faculty were also given the chance to submit their works of poetry and prose to the National Gallery of Writing.

To view more pictures of the event and contest winners, visit http://www.wordeater.org/. Also visit http://www.galleryofwriting.org/ to read more.



English professor Adam Heidenreich participates in the National Day on Writing. *Photo by Kat Boehle*



From left, English professor Jason Fichtel and Kerry Lane work on cut out poetry; Paul Simmons competes in the "Talk like Shakespeare" contest *Photos by Kat Boehle*

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Week from page 1

not stopped. 1/3 of women are victims of domestic violence and less than 3% of men are victims. 97% of women are victims of domestic violence by men. The cycle starts with "Attention Building Phase," which means the offender is set off by anything the victim does.

The next is "Something Happens," like an attack, physical harm, name calling (emotional abuse), or blaming her (yelling). With this comes "Disbelief" and leaves the victim asking herself, "What did I do" or "Did this just really happen?"

Then it's "Counseling" where the offender says he'll go and get help and become better, but excuses come into play such as "I'll go next week when we have more money" or "I'm too busy to go right now, but I'll go as soon as I'm not." Then the relationship goes into the "Honeymoon Phase" where he is apologizing all the time, saying he's sorry, that he loves you and it will never happen again, and he didn't mean any of it, and unfortunately she falls into it and has hope once more. After this phase, the cycle starts all over again with the "Attention Building Phase" and will not stop until something is done.

Domestic violence is not only battery, but also sexual violence. Samantha Mosher, Guardian Angel Convention Coordinator, gave her speech on the topic of "Sexual Violence as Domestic Violence: Prevention of Domestic Violence." Sexual violence is also known as sexual assault such as rape or sexual harassment. With this, follows the victims telling themselves, "I'm the only one" or "It won't happen again."

Also this impacts the victims majorly with constant flashbacks, nightmares, difficulty falling or staying asleep, anger and rage, difficulty concentrating, anxiety and panic, self-blame, guilt, shame, emotional numbing, or physical symptoms and health problems.

When a victim goes through sexual assault/domestic violence, they only want to be alone, but they should seek help from an advocate because no one should go through something this horrible alone. Guardian Angel offers free counseling and advocates that you can speak with and help you along the way to healing and the process of preventing it from ever happening again.

To prevent sexual assault/domestic violence, look for the warning signs like your gut feeling telling you something is wrong and use something from getting hurt like your car keys or pepper spray. So many people are looking to be in a relationship that they want but do not need, and this leads to domestic violence because victims will "put up" with anything to just have someone.

> *"Holding these types of meetings gives us the opportunity to promote ourselves on campus and allows students to get the proper help they need."*
> AMY SIMS
> HOLLISTIC WELLNESS COORDINATOR

Commander Melvin Cornelius of JJC's Police Department is doing his part by speaking about "Domestic Violence and Orders of Protection." An Order of Protection is based on a twofold test. The first is the victim's relationship with the defendant and the second is whether or not a domestic violence crime has been committed. If both do not apply, then the victim would have the option to file an Injunction Against Harassment, which prohibits the offender from harassing or harming the victim or another person.

Cornelius also stated that the JJCPD offers several different programs to help domestic violence victims feel and stay safe. One of the programs they offer is the "Cell Phones Program" where in verified cases of domestic violence, the victim is given a Nextel walkie talkie cell phone for loan for a period of time.

Another program is the "Student Escort Program" which JJCPD staff is available to escort anyone who requests to be escorted to their vehicles. If any victims are interested in getting involved in any of the domestic violence programs, all they would have to do is visit campus police and talk with them because they are here to help!

Amy Sims, Student Services and Holistic Wellness Coordinator, who put together the Domestic Violence Awareness Panel had several comments when asked how she felt about domestic violence. "It's an unfortunate part of our society. No one likes domestic violence," said Sims. "In the 80's everyone was talking about HIV-aids, the 90's they were talking about cancer, and now domestic violence is the huge issue and we're still not talking about it openly. The awareness needs to become stronger."

Sims was pleased with the turnout at the meeting.

"I was very excited with the turn out because it was such a large crowd. I think we're finally getting to a part of our community where faculty, staff and students are becoming more supportive of domestic violence," she said.

Sims put this meeting together to show faculty, staff, students, and even others that domestic violence is out there and happening all around us.

"Holding these types of meetings gives us the opportunity to promote ourselves on campus and allows students to get the proper help they need. And soon enough the abuser will catch on and realize what they're doing is wrong and the victim will realize they can get help."

She wants everyone to know there is help out there, and for all of us, men and women, to put an end to domestic violence. Take a stand by saying something when you see someone hit another person. Don't just sit there, watch and let it happen. Do something! Do your part and fight against domestic violence.

Food from page 1

Phi Theta Kappa hosted a showing of "Beyond Borders" and "Chicken a la Carte" on Oct. 20. Both films showed the disparity between the affluent and the poverty stricken. On Oct. 21, Phi Theta Kappa held another event called Free Rice on the center bridge.

Three screens were set up where students were given the opportunity to win a $20 gift card to the JJC Book Store. Free Rice is an online trivia game (www.freerice.com) that donates 10 grains of rice to the World Food Bank for each question answered correctly.

It is a fun way for students to make a contribution without breaking the bank. Bracelets and buttons were sold for a dollar, helping to promote World Food Day and raise money for fighting hunger in the community. The buttons were made by the StAR program. "Members of the Star program were a much appreciated addition to our efforts. With tons of enthusiasm, they helped us raise over $100 in profits from button and bracelet sales," said President Sean Hansen of Phi Theta Kappa.

50/50 Raffle tickets were sold throughout the week and a drawing took place on Oct. 26. All proceeds earned from these events will be going to Morning Star Mission in Joliet.

Helping out the community by donating spare change or bringing in a can or two is a great way for students to help make a difference and fight against hunger in their community.

Donation boxes for Project Graduation, hosted by Phi Theta Kappa, will be left around campus collecting canned donations and children's books until Spring graduation.

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Facebook and Twitter

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TECHNOLOGY FEATURE

The New Generation of Facebookers

SHELLEY HOLMGREN
Production Manager

As a college student, Saturday nights usually equate to one thing – party. With the music going, the laughs are nonstop, you'll have good memories (of what you can recall). However, the next morning when you log into your Facebook, you have a few unpleasant surprises.

One – the pictures you've been "tagged" in are less than flattering, possibly illegal, and two – a comment on your wall that says, "We need to talk. NOW." As mortifying as this may sound, many teens are now experiencing, exactly this – the *life of being friends with their* parents on Facebook.

In 2004, Mark Zuckerberg launched the networking site as a means for college students to connect with one another. The site was so strictly focused towards the college population that in order to make a profile, one had to have a legitimate college email address just to log on.

This changed, however, in 2005 when the website then allowed high school students to access the network. Though this drew some controversy, the true media storm hit in 2006 when Zuckerberg made the website accessible to the general public – now your sister in 7th grade, your grandmother and your boss could know exactly how you spent your Saturday night.

With Facebook's new "open door" policy, the website flourished with a whole new age group. As of July 2009, over 70 thousand people were accessing the popular networking site, according to Inside Network.

What's even more surprising is that over 60 percent of the users were age 26 and over. With parents logging on every day, students are beginning to wonder how this will impede their privacy.

JJC student Amanda Kramer sees the situation two ways. With the majority of her family logging into Facebook, including her grandmothers, she feels both connected and discouraged on the networking site.

"I can talk to family who are out of state more easily," said Kramer.

Not all Facebook users have been as amicable. JJC student Ashten Circelli is glad her parents do not access the networking site.

"I wouldn't be able to stand it," said Circelli. "Not only would it be an invasion of my privacy, the last thing I need is either of my parents commenting on my friends' walls." Following suite, since 2006, countless numbers of "Anti-Parent User" groups have popped up on Facebook. One user of the group "Kids Against Parents With Facebooks" writes: "Why would a parents want a Facebook, it's like if they went on your dates with you."

> ***"It's good for [parents] to reconnect with their own friends, but I don't think that they should pressure their kids to be friends with them."***
> AMANDA KRAMER

Although Kramer isn't lobbying against parents, her opinion treads the same line.

"I'm all for parents being on Facebook," said Kramer. "It's good for them to reconnect with their own friends, but I don't think that they should pressure their kids to be friends with them."

Kramer went on to mention that she kindly told her mother that being Facebook friends would not be an option.

"Sometimes, you don't want to tell your family everything," she said.

With new adult Facebookers taking to the net, one has to wonder if the use is just to monitor their teen or if they are just there for the same reason as everyone else? Joliet resident Cheryl Kacinskas is a mother of two, and yes, has a Facebook. Since joining the ranks of parental Facebookers, she has been able to reconnect with family and friends she hasn't spoken to since high school.

"I'm so happy to reconnect with old pals," said Kacinskas. "It's always a laugh to see what photos from the past someone will post on the site."

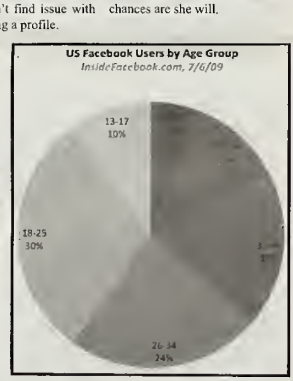
Although Kacinskas' daughters are not yet old enough to access the networking site, she readily agrees that they will have her permission to. Kacinskas' daughters Sara, 8, and Valerie, 10, don't find issue with their mom having a profile.

"I would be friends with my mom," said Sara.

Now with the sanctity of students' privacy at risk, one has to wonder whether the popular social network will be buried with other techno fads of the past like Xanga and Livejournal. In July alone, users age 18-25 logging on decreased by 600 thousand, but Kramer argues that parents aren't the cause of it.

"You don't have to accept your family as friends – you can always keep your page private," said Kramer. "I have even heard that people have two [profiles] – one for their family and one for their friends."

Whether this new trend will result in students having multiple profiles, one thing is certain – when Saturday night comes around, behave as though your mother will see the pictures. Because, thanks to Facebook, chances are she will.



Twitter? Tweet? What?

A quick insight to the new up and coming social network

BECKY GOMOLKA
Staff Writer

"Twitter – (verb): to talk lightly and rapidly, esp. of trivial matters; chatter." Yes, the word 'twitter' did exist before the recently popular website was created, but the definition from dictionary.com doesn't do the website justice.

Twitter.com is a social networking site that asks its members one simple question: "What are you doing?" Members have 140 characters to answer the question. While that would seem to prompt updates of "trivial matters," that is not always the case.

Do you look up to a celebrity? That person probably has a Twitter account.

Big into politics? Follow* Barack Obama. Want to know admission deadlines and other information for different universities? Most keep their prospective students informed via tweets*.

"I like following* certain celebrities," JJC student, Aleah Kee stated. "Not so I know what they're doing every second of every day, but I like behind the scene pictures and random statements they tweet."

> ***Barack Obama informed his followers on Oct. 20 about the Health Care Reform push and urged people to call Congress.***

Many people think of the website as a waste of time. Matthew Vuckovich, a sophomore at JJC, asked, "Why do I care what people are doing every second of the day?"

That is a common assumption considering the question asked, but the members of Twitter have gone beyond simple answers.

Barack Obama informed his followers on Oct. 20 about the Health Care Reform push and urged people to call Congress.

John Mayer posted his new album cover and track list for the album Battle Studies that is coming out Nov.17th. The University of Illinois reminded its followers that the application for Spring 2010 was closing.

Twitter is more than just "trivial matters." It's a new way to stay informed.

* Indicates Twitter Lingo

Tweet: A short update of what you are doing.

Followers: People that are subscribed to your updates.

Following: People you are interested in and are updated on their tweets.

At (@): Used when referring to someone else's update. The at symbol goes in front of the tweeter's twitter name.

JJC Battle of the Bands 2009

PHOTOS BY KAT BOEHLE

SHELLEY HOLMGREN
Production Manager

On Oct. 24, the JJC cafeteria was filled with a few things a little out of the ordinary – pulsing guitar riffs, wailing vocals, and... Twisted Sister?

There was nothing held back at the 2009 Battle of the Bands. Sponsored by the Student Government, proceeds of the event went towards the Chicago Children's Memorial Hospital. With turnout of student, staff and community, the night went on to include all musical genres including punk, classic rock, and even hardcore.

Opening the night was X Is For Eyes who derived their group name from lyrics featured in "In Your Wake" by Matt Skiba (of Alkaline Trio) and Kevin Seconds (of 7 Seconds).

The group aims to follow in the footsteps of Chicago music scene pioneers like The Broadways, The Honor System and Alkaline Trio. Not strangers to the stage, the band has performed at local venues such as Mojoe's and Soundlab.

Although this year is the group's first time playing in Battle of the Bands, they were actually slated to perform last year. However, three days prior to the Battle, the band dismembered, preventing them from performing.

Now with new drummer Joe Bolz in tow, the band is picking up the pieces and looking forward.

"Right now, we're just really focused on writing new material," said guitarist and vocalist Mike Noonan.

With lyrics written by Noonan and bass player Bob Wilson, X Is For Eyes' lyrics draw insight from addictions, pressure and other teenage conflicts. One of the career highs for the group was having the opportunity to work with Dan Lumley (one of the founding members of Rise Against).

"That was a huge inspiration for us," said Noonan.

Next in the lineup was the aptly named Brun Hilta, a group determined not to be comered into a label.

"When people hear our name, they can't figure what musical genre we fit into, so we can play whatever we want to," said Michael Dixon, lead vocals.

Covering a wide musical spectrum, the group's musical influences include The Beatles all the way to Radiohead and Audioslave.

As childhood friends, Dixon and drummer Kyle Blackman decided to musically collaborate, bringing along Dixon's brother David on keyboard, and Paul and Jake Cepela on lead guitar and bass – thus Brun Hilta was born. Now in their third and last year of performing at the Battle of the Bands, the group was determined to let their music do the talking.

"People in our age group typically don't understand our music," said Blackman. "We usually appeal to an older audience."

During their set, the group mixed the lineup with Blackman taking lead vocals on "Hey Mr." Being able to sing while drumming is a struggle, according to Blackman. "Sometimes I feel like I might pass out," he said.

Next to take the stage was Jaded, a punk quartet that rocks in the same vein as Green Day and My Chemical Romance. Since November 2006, this group of best friends has been playing shows all over the Chicagoland area, including the Congress Theater downtown.

Formally known as The Nimrods, this group features the lineup of Kyle McBain on lead vocals and guitar, Josh Davis on guitar, Carl Johnson on bass and Mike Staszak, drums.

The night was rounded off by The Backseat Pandas, a band that proudly lives by the mantra "If you book us, we will come."

With a lineup of Eddie Rocker on lead vocals and guitar, Andrew Bryan on bass and backing vocals and Jesse Hannah on drums, this pop/punk trio has already released two LP's and shows no signs of slowing down. In the past, the group has performed with local musicians Danger Is My Middle Name, Ryan's Hope and Farewell to February.

In the same vein as Article 57 and Bliok 182, anything was fair game during the set of these off-beat rockers. Singing lyrics from Pat Beoatar's "Mickey" and Twisted Sister's "We're Not Gonna Take It," the group engaged the audience to clap and sing along to verses of the well known hits.

Ultimately, the decision for who rocked the hardest was up to the judges. Each of the nine judges scored the groups on five different criteria: preparedness, originality, audience interaction, quality and presentation. English professor

Adam Heidenreich acted as a judge in this year's event and was impressed by the performers.

"They [were all] well-prepared and put on a good show," said Heidenreich. "They also seem to have fun on stage [being] rock stars."

By the end of the night, the judges ruled in favor of Brun Hilta garnering the 1st place spot, followed by Jaded, The Backseat Pandas and X Is For Eyes. For Blackman, finally getting the top spot after three years was bittersweet.

"It's amazing, just absolutely amazing," he said.

> *"When people hear our name, they can't figure what musical genre we fit into, so we can play whatever we want to."*
> MICHAEL DIXON,
> LEAD VOCALS OF BRUN HILTA

X IS FOR EYES	BRUN HILTA	JADED	THE BACKSEAT PANDAS
myspace.com/xisforeyes	*myspace.com/brunhilta*	*myspace.com/threefaceswestmokena*	*myspace.com/backseatpandas*

From left, Michael Dixan and Paul Cepela of Brun Hilta perform. Bob Wilson, Joe Bolz and Mike Noonan of X Is For Eyes open the night's performances.

A Frightening Conclusion

Haunted Houses take big chunk out of students' pockets

BRIAN KRUEA

Staff Writer

Halloween season is upon us and with it comes the many businesses who try to separate you from your money. Among these businesses are Halloween stores where people put down more in dollar bills than actual fabric in their costumes. I'm not going to discuss the economic [illegible] of Halloween [illegible] though, mainly because I enjoy to dig at [illegible]

[illegible] I decided to review two haunted houses that I had the pleasure to go to this year. Having never actually been to a haunted house before, I assumed [illegible] was the perfect [illegible] to review these haunted houses.

With no prior experience I prepared myself to embark on this haunted house journey. I tried to stay away from [illegible] liquids as possible before. I was ready to [illegible] The haunted houses are supposed to be scary, right?

The first haunted house I went to was Statesville Haunted Prison in the Fox Valley. A friend of mine [illegible] Statesville Haunted Prison has been [illegible] the best haunted house in [illegible] eight consecutive years. [illegible] Siegel's Cottonwood [illegible] Statesville Haunted [illegible] is the epitome of a haunted house.

Driving to Statesville itself was not a hard task. The computer generated directions led me there quite nicely plus the surrounding area had signs and Statesville itself had a well lit sign. Parking seemed very ample although I suggest not going on a day it rained unless you enjoy having the bottom half of your car covered in mud.

Right when I arrived I knew I was in for a long wait. The line, just to the ticket booth, seemed to stretch forever. I also suggest not going on a Saturday night. While waiting in line, I talked to Jeff Bezar who said, "We drove over two and half hours to come here. Haunted houses are my thing. This is my twelfth. I like to hit at least one a week during the Halloween season."

While I don't see myself becoming that big of a haunted house [illegible] about something, right? Waiting in line just to get to the ticket booth to buy a ticket was an hour and what a cold hour it was. The line to the ticket booth provided no relief from the elements. Luckily for [illegible] Nurses was [illegible] and [illegible] ticket booth [illegible] to get rid of you're looking for a cheap date, I would not suggest a haunted house.

You could also pay forty dollars for a VIP ticket and skip the ticket booth line completely. I put my wallet back in my pocket and began walking. I then realized that under a canopy is another line. Another very long line. Much to my happiness, this line was actually warm since it was under a huge canopy. I do have to admit that the line was pretty entertaining.

While listening to very loud heavy metal music, several [illegible] full makeup would [illegible] and attempt to scare people in the lines. I felt they did [illegible] everyone [illegible] curiously long line. I estimated that I had waited in various lines for about two and half hours.

> *With no prior experience, I prepared myself to embark on this haunted house journey... These haunted houses are supposed to be scary, right?*

Approximately 15-20 minutes [illegible] finally spent in the haunted house, I felt [illegible] the actual haunted house. A large group of people were herded into a giant cage where we sat shoulder to shoulder as a guy in makeup yelled at us. Finally, after waiting there with me and about sixty of my closest friends we were let into the haunted "prison" and in groups of eight we went to see the warden.

The haunted house was very bittersweet in my eyes. At times it was scary but at other times it was almost comical. While I do have to applaud the actual rooms of the haunted house for their creativity, I felt that the actors could have been a little bit better. They left me with a feeling that was similar to someone who you know is hiding around a corner but they still yell out "Boo!"

I do have to admit that I did have a feeling of apprehension as I walked through the haunted house. All in all, would I do it again? For thirty dollars, I do not think I would. It was pretty scary and the whole haunted ho[illegible] pretty w[illegible] college kid.

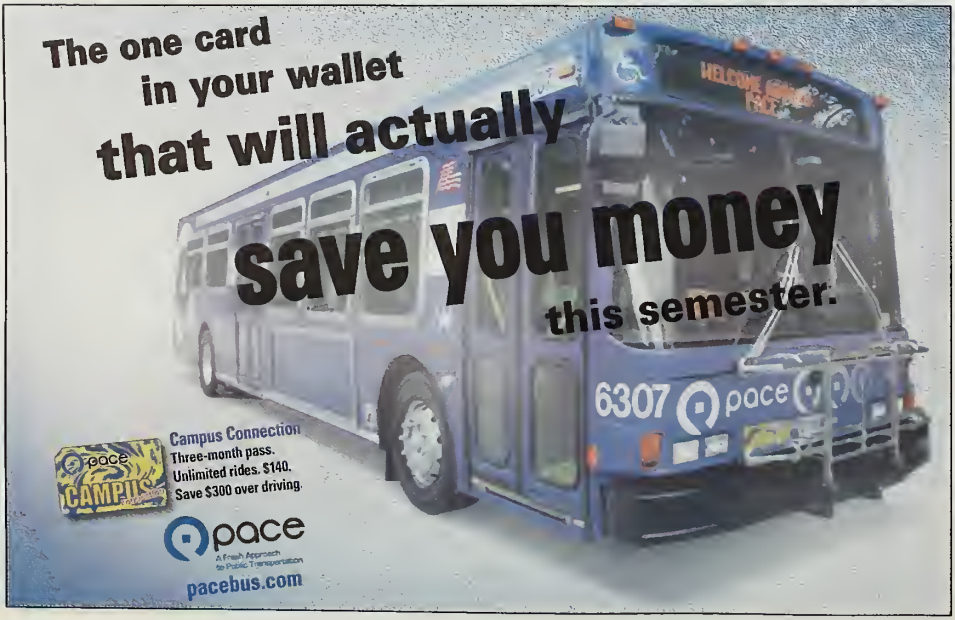
Although the ticket price is steep I feel as if Statesville Haunted Prison is a worthwhile experience," said Dan Clark, a sophomore at Depaul.

On a scale from 1-10, I would rate the scariness of Statesville Haunted Prison at a 7.

The other haunted house that I visited was The Fear at Navy Pier. Located in downtown Chicago, The Fear was pretty easy to locate since I have previously been to Navy Pier. From there, it was not difficult to follow the signs. Going on a S[illegible] probably a good idea [illegible] quite shorter [illegible] with Statesville Haunted Prison.

Similar to Statesville, The Fear had actors patrolling the lines scaring people. Also, they had a few people doing some fire spinning which was pretty entertaining. The actual tour began with an introduction video that prepared everyone for what was to come. A lot of the scenes in the attraction had an exorbitant amount of detail.

While not overly scary, I do have to say that The Fear was interesting to say the least. The actors were well done up in makeup and their costumes were pretty effective. The only negative about The Fear is the $20 ticket price coupled with $24 [illegible] suggest going to The Fear at Navy Pier. It is definitely interesting but I only give it a 5 for scariness on a scale of 1-10.



Question of the Issue

How would you feel if your parent's had a Facebook profile?

I don't know if I would add them as friends only because I would get lectured every other day about something. Probably my foul mouth.

Becka Schallau

It's a complete invasion of privacy, unless I was awaya in the army or something, then I'd have to delete some pictures.

Steve Evers

My dad has a Facebook and it doesn't bother me because he knows what I do so I don't have anything to hide.

Corie Simpson

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The Editors Picks for Favorite Halloween Movie

Jim's Pick

Young Frankenstein

My favorite Halloween movie is *Young Frankenstein* because it's a classic and Gene Wilder is absolutely hilarious in it. There are many great lines in it from "it's pronounced 'Frankenstein'" to "would you mind telling me whose brain I did put in...Abby Normal." Every year around Halloween, I watch it and laugh like it's the first time I've seen it.

Shawn's Pick

Idle Hands

Idle Hands is single-handedly the funniest "scary" movie ever. I watched the movie when it first came and and continued to watch it at least one a year since then.

Shelley's Pick

Hocus Pocus

You may laugh, but you can not deny the pure genius that is *Hocus Pocus*. It's Bete Midler in all of her ferocity trying to steal th souls of young children. What says Halloween more than that? Or a musical number for that matter.

CAPITALISM: A ~~LOVE~~ STORY

CAN'T BUY ME LOVE

Scandalous American director shows that when it comes to money, there's no sharing the love

REVIEWED BY ADRIANO VAZQUEZ

Regardless of what you believe when it comes to Michael Moore's documentaries, regardless of if you hate Michael Moore because you think he lies or god forbid, because he is FAT, as if that means anything; you have to acknowledge that the guy can strike a good argument even if his methods are questionable.

Simply put, there is no arguing that his latest film *Capitalism: A Love Story* asks painful and challenging questions.

Being the Michael Moore enthusiast that I am, I have to say that if you are the type of Moore fan who goes in thinking this is a laugh out loud comedy like his previous films; you are going to be in for quite a shock as this film has a more focused and matter of fact kind of tone.

It's easily noticeable from the first scene that Michael Moore has been waiting 20 years to make this film since his first film; *Roger & Me* was released back in 1989

Capitalism: A Love Story focuses on the financial crisis of 2007-2009 and the recovery stimulus. Moore does not say that Capitalism itself is evil, but that what Capitalism has become is evil. As with other Michael Moore documentaries, the film begins by explaining to us what the crisis is, followed by individual stories of everyday citizens (and yes the melodramatic music and crying Americans are here too) and then a huge story as to why the crisis happened, then finally, what we can do to solve the problem.

One striking story that Moore tell us is the concept of "dead peasant insurance." Did you know that companies like Wal-Mart can profit from the life insurance policies of its own employees? Apparently it is true with a few such cases including a single mom whose husband passed away and was a fellow employee of Wal-Mart for many, many years. As Moore claims, Wal-Mart collected over millions of dollars from the husband's life insurance policy and the family received nothing.

Another small point that Moore makes is the fact that the very airline pilots who fly you city to city, sometimes country to country, make less money than the people who mess up your taco order in Taco Bell. That's right, an Airline Pilot makes about $15,000-$25,000 a year, not a month, a year.

MOORE CARES LESS ABOUT PUTTING HIMSELF ON CAMERA AND CONCENTRATES MORE ON PRESENTING US HIS CASE...

Seeing as how I fly on airplanes more than I go to Taco Bell (because it is fake Mexican food), the fact that the airline pilots that are flying me and my family safely to Brazil this winter break are not receiving a pay check that is more than the Taco Bell employees in Brazil, just kind of scares me.

Moore goes deep in detail about Wall Street's "casino mentality" (greed). One story addresses profit prisons. The story talks about a detention center that was housing children for long periods of time and most of the patients were not even troubled or mentally ill in any way at all.

The twist is that the judge was receiving kick backs to hold more kids in the detention center. Basically put, if more kids were put in the detention center, the judge would receive more money.

The film shows Moore interviewing the very kids that were held in that institution with their reasoning behind why they were put there in the first place. With one such reason being that a kid posted negative comments about her principal on Facebook. Shocking.

Moore cares less about putting himself on camera and concentrates more on presenting us his case as to what is wrong with the economy and what is wrong with Capitalism in general. He states also that certain things in our country, like healthcare, should contain elements of socialism (the other –ism as the film hilariously calls it).

He also shows us the footage of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's speech for a second Bill of Rights that would guarantee all Americans "a useful job, a decent home, adequate health care, and a good education." Until now, this footage apparently was never viewed but heard on the radio at the time it was broadcasted.

I could go on and on about the topics that Michael Moore shows us in this movie but the point is that even with the film's faults (It sometimes loses focus and drags; the scene involving religion does not add anything to the film at all), this is a film that you need to see for yourself and debate with your peers.

The film ends with an inspirational message about how it is up to us to make the difference and fight back. If I would compare this to his other films, I would say that Capitalism: A Love Story is his 3rd best film, behind Roger & Me and Sicko. Having said all that, Capitalism: A Love Story is an entertaining documentary from start to finish.

Paramore matures with 'Brand New Eyes'

RYAN KELLEY
Staff Writer

Lights! Camera! Action! Paramore is in the spotlight again. With Riot! being the band's last release in June 2007, their new release Brand New Eyes is a highly anticipated release from them and their label, Fueled by Ramen.

On Riot! we heard Paramore's typical punk side with "in your face" songs that most Paramore fans are immune to. With the release of Brand New Eyes, we see a more sophisticated side of the band.

Listening to the album, it's obvious that singer Hayley Williams has matured dramatically through her lyrics; while musically, the band delivers a more mature/laid-back overtone. But this album is what I call a "grower."

If you listen to it once, you won't think much of it. Give it one more chance and I guarantee that you won't be disappointed. It will grow on you.

But hold on tightly as it begins with a bang! We are introduced to Brand New Eyes with "Careful," a song that pumps out quick guitar crunches and accelerating drum beats. It provides fans with the energy and power that Paramore needed in order to spread the word that they are back and have it in them to create another successful album like they did before.

Hayley Williams, lead singer of Paramore *Photo courtesy myspace.com*

"Careful" will force you to nod your head in satisfaction, a good start to the album. It is followed up by their lead single "Ignorance," which features harder guitar riffs and cut-throat lyrics such as, "where's your gavel, your jury? /what's my offense this time? / you're not a judge but if you're gonna judge me, sentence me to another life."

Next we hear "Playing God," a very laid back song that is also just right for this album. I wouldn't be surprised if this was the next single off of Brand New Eyes.

"Brick by Boring Brick," is vocally the most emotional song on the album from Williams who is backed by driving bass and loud guitars. The song is a philosophical masterpiece.

If you want to know what the album cover means, pay close attention to the lyrics of this song.

If you're a Paramore fan, this album will easily become a favorite for you. Like a lot of albums coming out lately, Brand New Eyes is not anything groundbreaking but the band has found a way to be successful without doing that.

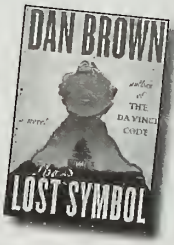
This shows as they are now on a national tour to spread the word of this album, with many of the shows already sold out.

If you're lucky, you can retrieve a ticket to some selected performances. At the end of November, they will head overseas for their international tour.

So let's give it up for these Tennessee rockers. Brand New Eyes is currently topping charts everywhere. They've succeeded with another hit album.

Dan Brown follows 'Da Vinci Code' hit success with 'The Lost Symbol'

RYAN WEBER
Staff Writer



Dan Brown is a writer who loves more than just a good mystery. He seems to love the lore of the unknown and the possibility that it might lead to an earth-shattering discovery.

He is a writer who seamlessly writes about the unknown and mysteries that have been talked about for years if not centuries, while making them seem like it all could be right in front of you.

He gets you involved with not only the characters, but also the history behind all the buildings and artifacts that he genuinely intertwines into his novels.

If you have not read a Dan Brown novel, you may think that it's funny how a reader could get so involved in the artifacts and the meanings that they have around them, but it is truly amazing.

My sister and I were two of these so called "fanatics" about the history behind the story. It's funny to think back now on this, for when I went to Paris, France; all my sister could say was that I had to make it to the Louvre so that I could take a picture of Mona Lisa for her and that I should go see the Vatican just because Robert Langdon went there.

Robert Langdon's character has taken on an almost Indiana Jones quality in that he picks up a different woman with every new adventure.

His new book, The Lost Symbol is no different in the way that it will make you want to get up and go to Washington D.C. just to take a look at the places that Langdon traveled to.

Brown throws Robert Langdon of now three novels, into Washington D.C. This time, Langdon is to delve into the ancient mysteries of the Masonic "cult" and rescue not only the ancient artifacts, but also his friends from the face of danger and destruction.

This novel is consistent with the rest of Brown's action/mystery novels. It contains severed body parts, a minor love fling, a historical finding which will help solve the riddle, and of course, a friend who seems to know all the minor little details that help fill in the story.

Now, before I start to explain my view and opinion of Brown's newest book, I would like to state that it was a very good read and that, if you liked his previous four books, this one will be no different.

Stating that though, I do believe that this book had very little deviation from Brown's first two books in which Robert Langdon was the main character. He again puts Langdon into a situation in which he has to solve these ancient mysteries with minimal help and little time.

Did you ever notice that Robert Langdon has probably gone through these three adventures in about one and a half to two weeks tops? Amazing, I believe, since all of these mysteries that he has solved have been kept secret for hundreds of years.

Also, how come there is always a beautiful woman that he is either attracted to or about to hook up with? Robert Langdon's character has taken on an almost Indiana Jones quality in that he picks up a different woman with every new adventure.

Maybe these writers are trying to tell us that history teachers who go into an ancient study get all the women, and if we liked their adventure, that we should follow close behind.

Another thing that kind of irritates me is the fact that Langdon seemed to have an almost superhuman strength about him. Although everyone around him seems to, at one point or another, give in a little, he did not. No matter what trouble he got into he always seemed to get out and get one step ahead. And even when in trouble, he still seemed able to function more intelligently than most people do in their prime.

The ending though was, in my opinion, the worst of his books so far. Brown makes Langdon go through so much during the story and then suddenly, he plops him down at the ending. It was the sole difference out of all of Brown's previous novels because Langdon never actually solved the mystery; it was almost handed to him. And then, the story just ends. It just did not seem to fit in with the story or with Brown's style of writing at all.

All in all, I liked the story. I wish that it had differed in regards to his other books, but it was a novel which I could not put down, all the same. It kept me intrigued and had me guessing at all the twists and turns and in the end, left me wanting more.

fall playlist

BY BECKA SCHALLAU

This compilation of haunting melodies is the perfect way to get your fall started off right.

1. ALL THE MEMORIES, ALL AT ONCE - SUNLIGHT ASCENDING
2. OH MAN! - SYBRIS
3. LAUNDRY ROOM - THE AVETT BROTHERS
4. THE BEACON - A FINE FRENZY
5. A DIAMOND & A TETHER - DEATH CAB FOR CUTIE
6. FOR YOUR LOVE - MARCHING BAND
7. SMOKERS OUTSIDE THE HOSPITAL - EDITORS
8. WHERE IS MY MIND? (PIXIES COVER) - NADA SURF
9. BEFORE IT BREAKS - BRANDI CARLILE
10. FOR REAL - OKKERVIL RIVER
11. NAKED & RED - COLOUR REVOLT
12. WICKED BLOOD - SEA WOLF
13. WHEN THE DEVIL'S LOOSE - A.A. BONDY
14. WELCOME HOME, SON - RADICAL FACE
15. CATCH THE LIGHT - SIN FANG BOUS
16. VAGABOND - WOLFMOTHER
17. SCARECROW - THE VEILS
18. HAVE TO DRIVE - AMANDA PALMER

"Things I have done at Benedictine have taught me how to interact and deal with people of different racial backgrounds and social environments."

Marcus Pass came to Benedictine University hoping to learn new things and meet new people. He has achieved both. "I felt that by coming to Benedictine, I would learn things I never would have known had I not come here," he said. "I now have friends of all races and ethnicities, I am learning how to be a well-rounded person.

"The things I have done at Benedictine have taught me how to interact and deal with people of different racial backgrounds and social environments," Pass added. "My patience and tolerance have reached new heights."

Pass expanded his circle of friends and gained new experiences through his participation in a number of student organizations and activities such as the Eye of the Eagle student television show where he serves as a sports anchor, the African-American Student Union and The Candor student newspaper.

Marcus Pass – carrying the light that was passed on to him, and sharing it with others so that they may pass it on to future generations.

Carry the Light

Marcus Pass
Class of 2011
Communication Arts Major
Chicago, Illinois
Leo Catholic High School

Benedictine University
5700 College Road
Lisle, Illinois
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Mark your calendar...
Sunday, November 15, 2009 for the Business Open House at 12:00 p.m. in the Krasa Center
Saturday, November 21, 2009 for the Science Open House at 11:00 a.m. in the Krasa Center

In need of some light reading? The Blazer is online! See issues from the past three years and catch up on your favorite college newspaper! Just go to www.jjc.edu/blazer

News Briefs

American Red Cross Blood Drive

Give the gift of life; donate blood on Nov. 5 from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. on the bridge. Appointments accepted by calling ext. 2202, walk ins welcome. ID required.

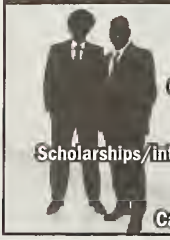
Old Time Social

Join JJC and Jay Mau Orchestra for some ballroom dancing on Nov. 6 from 4-6 p.m. in the cafeteria as we raise money for the Senior Services of Will County. Donations accepted...ice cream sundaes for all!

Discover JJC

With more than 100 academic programs, championship athletic teams and dozens of student clubs, there's more than you can imagine at Joliet Junior College. Come to Discover JJC on Nov. 7 from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. and see what's waiting for you!

Student Work



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The Editors Picks for Favorite Halloween Movie

Kat B.'s Pick

Night of the Lepus

I'm always in for a corny horror on Halloween, but *Night of the Lepus* stands out compared to all of the others I have seen. The thought of rabbits mutating to the size of wolves and going against humans is quite humerous.

Tommy's Pick

Saw

Saw is my favorite Halloween movie because it's creative and it keeps me guessing throughout the movie. The original is by far the best of the whole series, although i'll continue to see the others.

Kelsie's Pick

The Leprechaun

As a kid, my dad would always let my brother and I watch scary movies. Once the movie would start we would have to sit there through the whole movie! Even if were we terrified and didn't want to watch it anymore. But the best scary movie was "The Leprechaun" just because he kept popping up everywhere and constantly hurting and killing everyone. That guy is creepy as heck! I definitely still refuse to watch it.

Christofer Boeyi

10 GREAT REASONS TO TRANSFER TO ELMHURST

1 "The faculty really care about you. I chose Elmhurst in the first place because I believed the faculty would challenge me and prepare me for a music career, and they have," says Christofer Boeyink. "The music department is like a big family. I love that about Elmhurst. Each of the departments is very tight-knit."

2 As a transfer student, you're just one of us. About one in three of our students comes to us with experience at another college or university. We understand your academic needs.

3 The transfer process is easy and personal. Our admission counselors will advise you on the course credits you'll need to make your transition to Elmhurst simple.

4 You can afford a great college education. And we'll help! Last year, we offered more than 300 scholarships to transfer students. More than 86 percent of our students receive financial aid.

5 The college guides have spoken: Elmhurst is among the best in the Midwest. We're "top tier" in *U.S. News* and *The Princeton Review* calls Elmhurst "a small college with a big bang."

6 Elmhurst looks like a college ought to look. The campus is an arboretum with trees from around the world. It covers 38 acres and has 25 buildings, each designed to support your academic and personal development.

7 You'll have your choice of more than 50 majors. Whether you know what your major will be or you're still exploring the possibilities, we'll provide you with an ideal environment to plan your future.

8 In over 100 student organ tions, you'll get your chan to lead. Transfer students rourinely hold top positions our Student Government As ciation, award-winning stud newspaper, and throughout campus life.

9 "You can get real-world experience with a great internship. I'm a psychology major, and I did my internship with the National Alliance on Mental Illness," says Sofia De Lama. "I provided people with resources they really needed, su as support groups and even housing. It was a great experien

10 An Elmhurst educatio intensely practical. E of our majors offers both cutting-edge theory and ple of opportunities to practice how the theory actually wor in the real world.

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Elmhurst College

Midfielder Jenna Gruben looks to make a move in a game against Harper College. *Photo by Mike DiNovo*

Soccer

Lady Wolves to battle DuPage in playoffs

GINO DI NAROO

"Injuries have hurt us this year, so we've had to shuffle some things around and it's taken us a while to get organized."
HEAD COACH
GINO DI NARDO

SAAD SHALABI
Staff Writer

The Lady Wolves finished the regular season strong shutting out Daley College 7-0 on Oct. 15. Midfielder Yolanda Frederick led the scoring with three goals. Defenders Sasha Garcia and Sara Bock, along with forward Martha Tellez and second-year goalkeeper Michelle Del Sarto all contributed with one goal apiece.

In addition to the goals scored, Bock, Del Sarto and Tellez, along with midfielders Jenna Gruben and Courtney Divita all recorded assists in the win.

Prior to the game against Daley, the Lady Wolves were shutout by Parkland College 4-0 on Oct. 13. Del Sarto recorded 17 saves in the losing effort.

The Lady Wolves finished the regular season with a 5-10-1 record.

"Injuries have hurt us this year so we've had to shuffle some things around and it's taken us a while to get organized," said head coach Gino Di Nardo.

Their opponent in the opening round of the playoffs will be the College of DuPage who outscored the Lady Wolves 13-0 in the team's two meetings this season and is number 2 in the nation with a 14-3 record overall.

"It will be important to be prepared and be mentally tough and hold them down for the first 10-15 minutes to give us confidence," said Di Nardo. "They're number 2 in the nation for a reason, they score a lot of goals."

DuPage has scored 92 goals this season and the Lady Wolves will need to contain forward Tegan Albert who has scored 21 goals this season, with 3 coming against the Lady Wolves, and forward Deena Tillawi who has 15 goals on the year, with 3 coming against JJC.

"It all depends on who shows up to play, anything is possible," said DiNardo.

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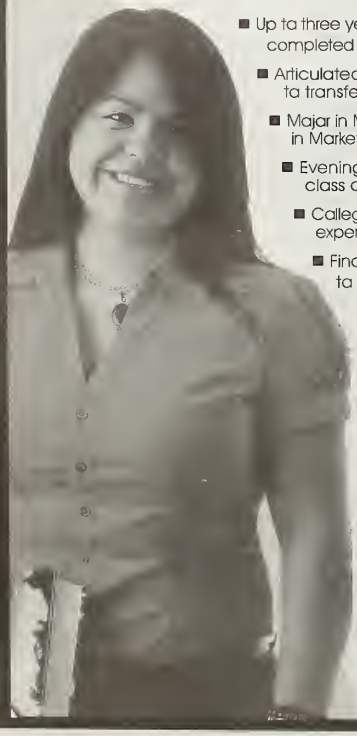

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Volleyball

Lady Wolves make the playoff push

TOMMY STOKKE
Sports Editor

The Joliet Junior College Lady Wolves volleyball team is gaining momentum at just the right time.

With the playoffs right around the corner, JJC has won two of their last four games.

The first victory came in a five-game match against Milwaukee Area Technical College on Oct. 12. After winning the first two games 25-21 and 26-24 the Lady Wolves would drop the next two 23-25, 23-25. However, JJC would respond and pull out the win with a 15-10 victory in the fifth game. Brittany Powers finished with 14 kills and 14 digs and April Veronda added 11 kills and 15 digs.

"I thought we played much better tonight," head coach Lakisha Cameron said. "I am proud of our team for battling it out."

JJC would sweep Triton in their following match on Oct. 13, 25-17, 25-14 and 25-22. Megan Wilmoth finished with a team high 10 kills and 10 digs. Powers and Amie Hogan added 8 digs each.

Cameron was pleased following the win.

"We are finally getting back on track this season."

The Lady Wolves would suffer a setback at the hands of Madison Area Technical College 22-25, 22-25, 18-25 on Oct. 17. Despite the loss, the Lady Wolves were much more competitive this time around after scoring less than 15 points in two of three games the last time around against Madison. Verdonda finished with 14 kills and 9 digs.

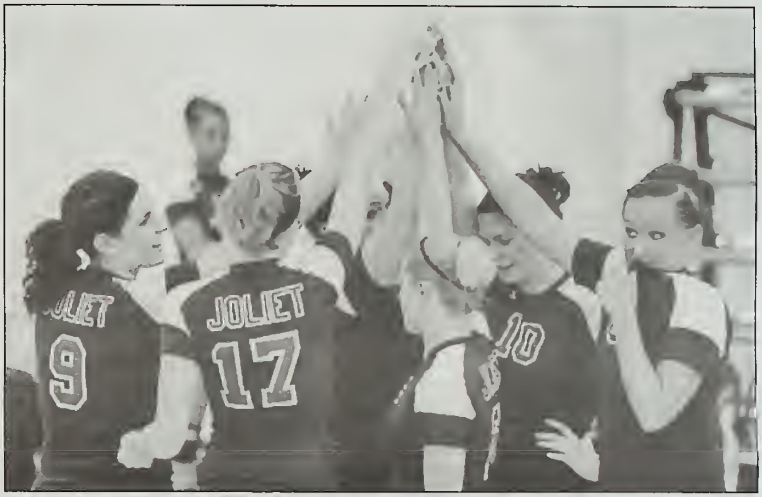
"We played much better this time around," said Cameron of her team's performance.

They also fell on Oct. 20 to Moraine Valley Community College, 16-25, 17-25 and 12-25. Powers had 5 kills, 7 digs and 9 assists and Wilmoth added 5 kills, 8 digs and 2 assists.

Joliet is now 12-21 overall and 5-6 in the conference, an improvement over their 10-29 record last season. They are also improved in the N4C conference. Last season the Lady Wolves put together just two wins. This year they have five.

Wilmoth has come on strong for the Lady Wolves. The freshman from Lincoln-Way Central has averaged 10 kills her last four games.

JJC will take on Rock Valley and Lincoln College before the playoffs begin on Oct. 28. Rock Valley defeated JJC earlier this season. But with momentum and a playoff atmosphere anything can happen.



The Lady Wolves huddle up during a game against Concordia University's junior varsity team. *Photo by Mike DiNovo*

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AD MAJOREM DEI GLORIAM

Preparing people to lead extraordinary lives

Soccer

Wolves fall in region final

JIM SHELDON
Co-Editor-In-Chief

For the second straight season, the Joliet Junior College men's soccer team advanced to the Region IV tournament championship game against Triton College. Last season the Wolves fell 1-0 in the final and they were looking for revenge this season.

The task wasn't going to be an easy one. Triton had won 14 straight games after starting the year 0-2. The Wolves entered the game on a two-game winning streak with an 8-10 record overall. Unfortunately for the Wolves, Triton ended their season again, this time with a 5-1 win in the championship game on Oct. 24.

Prior to the game against Triton, the Wolves defeated Kankakee Community College in the opening round of the playoffs, 4-1. Arturo Rios, Ariel Ortega, Ahmad Rashid and Andrew Beltran scored the goals for the Wolves. Rios, Rashid and Diego Rios recorded assists. Goalkeeper Eriberto Gonzalez had 4 saves.

Sophomore forward Arturo Rios led the Wolves in scoring with 13 goals and 30 points. He also was tied for the team lead in goals last year with 12.

Sophomore midfielder Bryce Anderson was second on the team in scoring with 7 goals and 15 points. He was tied with Rios last season with 12 goals.

Rashid led the Wolves in assists with 5 and Rios and Diego Rios had 4 assists, respectively.

The Wolves had three goalkeepers this season that played a key role. Gonzalez recorded 38 saves, Robert Reyes had 37 and Robbie Gullet had 9.

The Wolves will lose six players next season: Rashid, Rios, Anderson, Troy Behning, Travis Peters and Ariel Ortega. They will have holes to fill just like any team does at the beginning of a new season.

The Wolves finished the season with an 8-11 record overall, 4-7 in their conference.

Wolves quarterback Chris Walley runs for his life against College of Dupage on Oct. 24.

Photo by Mike DiNovo

Wolves fall to DuPage 27-20 in season finale

TOMMY STOKKE
Sports Editor

Round one went to the College of DuPage, but Joliet Junior College won't have to wait long to get redemption.

The Wolves fell to the Chaparrals 27-20 on Saturday, but will get a chance at revenge next week in the opening round of the playoffs.

"Everyone knew it was going to be a battle today, and that's what we did," said JJC coach Jeremy Richardson. "They just made one more play than we did."

That one play came in the fourth quarter with the score tied 20-20. Following an Exzaybion Jackson five yard touchdown run, COD would get the ball with 3:03 remaining. It took just four plays for the Chaparrals to regain the lead with the damage coming on a 43-yard screen pass from Kevin Koch to James Kurtz.

The Wolves would get the ball with 1:22 left and a chance to tie. JJC quarterback Chris Walley hit Tyler Ray for a 31-yard gain. He would then hit Donnie Schwaga for 20 more yards and bring Joliet down to the 24-yard line before his interception with 32 seconds left sealed the victory for DuPage.

"There was nothing we did wrong that play," said Richardson. "That was just a well-run blitz and he was the unblocked man." DuPage opened up the game scoring on their first drive courtesy of a Mike McNulty 10-yard run. The two point conversion attempt failed giving DuPage the 6-0 lead.

After a sluggish first quarter, Joliet would put together a drive early in the second quarter. After two pass interference penalties against DuPage, the Wolves would find themselves at the 16-yard line and threatening. However, after Walley completed a seven yard pass to Brandon Williams, the sophomore tight end fumbled.

Jackson got things going in the second half for Joliet. His 64-yard burst up the middle set up a two yard touchdown run by Toshorn Napper giving Joliet their first, and only, lead of the day at 7-6.

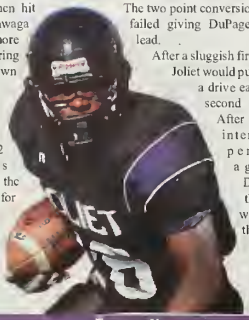
DuPage would answer immediately. On the first play from scrimmage, Koch would hook up with Mike McNulty for 65 yards. Two plays later it was Koch to Steve Olopo for the 13 yard score. A two point conversion made it 14-7.

Joliet would then put together a 13-play drive that resulted in a Schwaga touchdown from Walley for nine yards. Joliet would pick up 3rd-and-15 on two different occasions to extend the drive. However, a blocked extra point put JJC down 14-13.

DuPage would only need five plays to put the ball back into the end zone. After a 48-yard run by Koch, Bryant Venson would take it 15 yards before McNulty's 15-yard TD run. Their extra point attempt was blocked as well, leaving JJC down 20-13.

Another 13-play drive ended with a Jackson 5-yard run for JJC, their final score of the game before DuPage's game-winning drive.

"There are always concerns when there are big plays made against you, but there is nothing for us to be concerned about," said Richardson. "We're going to put the hard hats on and get back to work this week. That's all we can do. We had a good week of preparation this week, but the one thing that I will say is we will win next week's game. Guaranteed."



TOSHORN NAPPER

MALE ATHLETE OF THE ISSUE

BY JIM SHELDON

Freshman linebacker Blake Rogers is the leading tackler this season for the Wolves. He has recorded 50 tackles, 29 solo tackles and also has an interception. Rogers had his best game of the season against Grand Rapids on Oct. 10. He recorded 6.5 solo tackles in a 51-7 defeat.

He also had 5 solo tackles and an interception against North Dakota State College of Science on Sept. 5. Rogers leads the Wolves into their playoff game against the College of DuPage.

BLAKE ROGERS

FEMALE ATHLETE OF THE ISSUE

April Veronda is having another strong season for the Lady Wolves. She leads the team in kills and digs with 304 and 260 respectively, and she's second in aces with 48. Veronda had her best all-around game of the season against Milwaukee Area Technical College on Oct. 12. She had 11 kills, 15 digs and 4 aces in a 25-21, 26-24, 23-25, 23-25 and 15-10 win. Look for Veronda and the Lady Wolves in the Region IV tournament which starts Oct. 28th.

APRIL VERONDA

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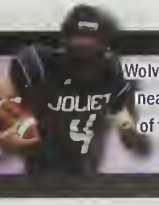

Wolves football nears the end of the season page 16

FEATURES

Where's the best place on campus to find palm readers, psychics and ... spiders?

PARA FAIR

As a part of the Para Fair events, Reptile Rampage brought a selection of creepy crawlers to show students, including spiders. *Photo By Kat Boehle*

OSA sponsors Para Fair to bring all aspects of parapsychology to JJC

KAT BOEHLE
Photo Editor

On Friday, Oct. 30th, the center bridge was a little out of the ordinary, considering that there were Halloween themed decorations and curtains that spruced up the place. This was for the Para Fair, an Office of Student Activities sponsored event.

There were six parapsychology clinicians for the event. There was the typical psychic, handwriting analysis, face reading and palm reading, but there were also some demonstrators that weren't typically heard of.

The Pagan and Wiccan club displayed educational material that helped students learn about the origin of Halloween.

Among them was spirit painting, demonstrated by Mary Struck who has been doing it for 6-8 months. A student would take 3-5 colors of paint and put a drop of each color on a solid surface. Then they would lay a piece of paper down on the paint, press their hand down, and pull the

See Fair page 9

News

Parking tickets can be appealed

ELIZABETH HAUSSMANN
Staff Writer

While the college is focusing on "Building a better JJC," students are trying to understand the parking rules. People who receive a ticket have two options to either pay the ticket or they can appeal it.

In order to appeal or pay the ticket, go through the J door to the front window. If a student pays a parking ticket before the first 15 days the fine is $10 after that it is $15 for a regular parking violation, other violations can go up to $250.

In order to appeal the fine, it has to be before the first 15 days and a student must fill out the appeal application. Your application will be reviewed by the campus police and the student will receive a letter in the mail telling them whether or not their appeal has been approved.

If the appeal is approved then the student does not have to pay the fine, but if the appeal is denied, the person will be notified and will have 15 days to pay the original fine amount or it will double.

Only certain situations call for an appeal and will be approved by the campus police. To ensure

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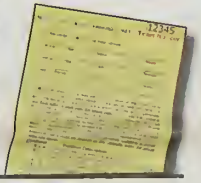

Work training makes transition to college easier

ELIZABETH HAUSSMANN
Staff Writer

The Work Training Partnership at Joliet Junior College is a transitional program developed to ease the transition into college and adult life for exceptional and disabled students.

These students are also given the opportunity to make an impact on their community by assisting academic clubs like Phi Theta Kappa.

The WTP works with students from the Plainfield School District 202 to make the transition between high school and college easier.

It is not just for college students but also students ranging from the ages of 16 to 21. The WTP program has a morning and night program plus it is offered in the fall, spring and summer semesters.

The WTP allows students with disabilities to attend school and receive an education while working on further developing their daily skills. They have students helping with custodial work, stocking the coolers in the cafeteria and helping test wires in the wire room.

By building these professional and social skills, it allows some

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Veterans Day takes on added meaning this year

EDITORIAL

Yes we were off school yesterday. But do you know why? Some of you may know and others may be clueless to the reason.

Yesterday was Veterans Day and chances are that's all you know. You probably don't know the history behind the holiday and what it symbolizes. Lucky for you, we're offering a little refresher course in history. Pay attention because there will be a quiz at the end of this (that's a joke).

The premise for Veterans Day goes back to the end of World War I. The fighting ceased on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month, Nov. 11, 1918.

On Nov. 11, 1919, President Woodrow Wilson proclaimed that day an Armistice Day. Seven years later, Congress passed a resolution which requested that the president issue another proclamation which would observe Nov. 11 with appropriate ceremonies.

In May of 1938, an act was passed which made the 11th of November each year a legal holiday. Armistice Day was primarily to honor the veterans of WWI; however in 1954 a Kansas shoe store owner named Al King came up with the idea to expand Armistice Day to include all veterans.

There are always heavy hearts on Veteran's Day when we think of everyone who fought for our country and made the ultimate sacrifice.

Veterans service organizations supported the idea and in 1954 a bill was passed which replaced Armistice Day with Veterans Day and it's been known that ever since.

There are always heavy hearts on Veteran's Day when we think of everyone who fought for our country and made the ultimate sacrifice.

Hearts were very heavy this year with America still being at war in Afghanistan and Iraq and with American soldiers being gunned down on home soil in the Nov. 5 massacre at Fort Hood in Texas.

Could there be a safer place for American soldiers than an Army base deep in the heart of Texas?

If that weren't astonishing enough, the 13 dead and 31 wounded at Fort Hood were shot by an American soldier.

The alleged shooter was an officer, psychiatrist and a Muslim who was going to be deployed to Afghanistan later this month.

To think that this happened on an American military base, that a person could bring in a semi-automatic or automatic weapon and manage to kill 13 people, is a tough pill to swallow and raises a red flag on the security of military bases.

This has stirred up some Anti-Muslim feelings again and President Obama said that we shouldn't jump to conclusions regarding the motive of the shooting. And we couldn't agree more.

This man didn't hate America. He was apparently upset about his upcoming deployment and he wanted out of the military and evidently thought that the only way out was to go on a rampage.

Obama ordered that flags should be flown at half staff until Veterans Day saying that "the entire nation is grieving."

So we hope that you now know more about Veterans Day and don't just look at it as a day off. It's a day of remembrance for those who gave their lives for our nation. It's also a day where we keep in mind those that are still fighting to defend this great country of ours.

So raise your flags and enjoy life in America, reflecting on the freedoms that we enjoy because of the fallen.

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The Pop Culture Commentary WITH SHELLEY HOLMGREN

Celebrity cheaters Hall of Fame

Since the beginning of *time, womankind has* asked the question: Why do men cheat? It's a simple question that never seems to have a simple answer. Unfortunately in pop culture, even though you are in fact a supermodel that does not mean that your man will be able to stay loyal.

Tell this to Fergie, the front woman of the hip hop group Black Eyed Peas. Since 2005, her and husband Josh Duhamel (Transformers) have seemingly had a perfect marriage. However, as of last week, reports have been fluttering in the tabloids about Duhamel's alleged affair with a stripper – classy to say the least.

Although the actor denies the allegations, that still doesn't prevent the schism to form between the idyllic couple. All I have to say is, dude, have you seen your wife? This is a woman who had an entire nation singing about the glory of her "humps" why would you need to look elsewhere?

Although the incident appears to be a desperate attempt at five minutes of fame for the adult entertainer, usually when there's smoke, there's going to be a fire somewhere. But we just can't simply point a finger at Duhamel for his possible foray into unfaithfulness.

Setting the precedent for guys who shouldn't cheat on their really hot girlfriend is none other than the British charmer Hugh Grant. Known for his roles in such films as Love, Actually and About a Boy, there was a time when the actor was criticized for something other than his role choices.

In 1995, while dating actress/model Elizabeth Hurley, Grant *was arrested while – er…* 'Spending time' per se with a prostitute named Divine Brown in Los Angeles. Although the actor's extracurricular activities became world known, Hurley stayed by his side for five more years.

I'm sorry, but if you are going to have an affair with a woman, at least do so with a woman whose first name isn't an adjective… or if you happen to be dating a model. Seriously, have you seen Elizabeth Hurley? If she can't hold on to a man, what hope is there for the rest of us?

I'm sorry, but if you are going to have an affair with a woman, at least do so with a woman whose first name isn't an adjective…

Another example of a man who refuses to think with his head and with another anatomical part is another Brit, Jude Law. Back in 2005, Law and fellow Brit Sienna Miller were the "it" couple overseas.

However, in that year it came to surface that Miller was not the only woman who Jude was laying his Law out for… but remember Jude Law is a classy guy. He had more class than to go out looking for a prostitute; he didn't have *to look any further than his own* home… with the nanny.

The affair with nanny Daisy Wright ultimately cost the British heartthrob his girlfriend Miller, and subsequently giving birth to a whole new concept of taking care of your hired help. All I got to say is it is very comforting to know that in this time of economic trouble, Jude Law is looking out for the working class – and then some.

Ending this chorus line is the grand daddy of them all, the man who spoke those infamous words to an entire nation: "I did not have sexual relations with that woman." You all know him, you all love him, it's good ole former President Bill Clinton.

In 1995, Clinton gave hands on experience a whole new meaning when he began having relations with White House intern Monica Lewinski. Although it later came to light that the allegations were true about his affair, wife Hilary stood by his side, and did what I believe to be one of the smartest *things* a woman can do in such a situation.

What do you do if men are getting you down? You beat them… well, politically that is. From 2001 to 2009, Hilary served as a New York Senator, and with the inauguration of President Obama came her appointment to the position of Secretary of State. Hilary, although I may not ever agree with your politics or your hair cut, I definitely applaud your retribution.

So now, I take you back to the age old question, why do men cheat? Several arguments have been made on behalf of the Y-chromosome species. Studies show that in some cases, men have affairs because they fear intimacy and want to maintain power in their relationship, according to Dr. Gail Saltz in an article published by MSNBC.

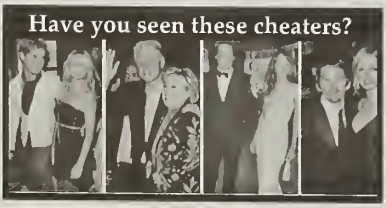
The doctor further argues that men may also be compelled to cheat because of the Darwinian instinct to spread their genetic seed to more mates.

Sometimes the reason can be simply explained away with the need for sex. Basically, it comes down to the argument that there is just no one reason why people cheat – they just do.

So, gentleman of Tinsel town and the world alike, I implore you that if you are going to have an affair, have the decency to not engage in one with someone who: a) you have to pay for, b) works for you, and c) well…. Just don't cheat.

Although you may argue that it's your integral instinct to "spread your seed," why don't you try to keep your pants on?

Have you seen these cheaters?



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GARDENING CORNER with Nicole Gear

Thinking green with Xeriscaping

The term "green gardening" might seem redundant. Isn't gardening, by definition, green? Not when we consider that some gardens require so much water, fertilizer and various fungal and insect sprays to keep them alive that it does more harm than good to our environment. I became interested in "green gardening" and decided to put together a water-wise garden myself this year. I was inspired by an article I had read about the benefits of Xeriscaping, a term coined in Colorado from the Greek word "xeros," meaning dry. Not only is Xeriscaping better for our environment by using far less resources, it also requires much less work and money on our part. It is a misconception that a xeric garden has to be arid, sparse and lacking in color. There is a surprising array of plants that are tolerant of drought and require little care. For instance, in my perennial xeric garden, I have several varieties of lavender, allium, blue star juniper, dianthus, salivia, beardtongue and a variety of sedums.

Other low-maintenance plants include yarrow, Russian sage, hummingbird mint, artemisia, tickseed, gaillardia, some iris as well as the usual echinacea and coneflowers. When planting your Xeriscape, the plants should be watered regularly until established and after that, only as needed. In my case, I planted my garden in May and after the plants were established I did not need to water it even once. A key to a successful xeric garden is having well-drained soil. I did a raised bed with a soil mixture including sand, some pea gravel and some organic material. It's best not to go too heavy with the organic material, as most plants considered xeric do not need much fertilizing and over-doing it could shorten their lifespan.

This fall, I did a light fertilizing with a compost tea to give my green friends a boost as they are collecting nutrients for next year. Being water-wise does not have to stop at the garden. A lush lawn is beautiful to look at and comfortable to walk upon but requires a lot of water to keep it looking nice. By keeping your standard grasses like Kentucky bluegrass only in the areas that you use most often, you can save water and time. In the farther reaches of the yard, replace traditional grass with buffalo grass or native grasses.

"Legacy" is a buffalo grass that has been improved to look more like bluegrass turf and it actually prefers heavy clay soil. Another option is to replace some of your lawn with water-wise groundcovers. Not only does this conserve resources but it adds interest and texture to areas that are lacking. Replacing some of your water-loving lawn with other alternatives saves water, time, fertilizer, etc. but by mowing less you are also reducing the pollutants released in the atmosphere. I recently read that one hour of running your lawnmower emits the same amount of pollutants as driving an average car for twelve hours You do not have to sacrifice a traditional lawn or even a traditional garden to reap the benefits of Xeriscaping. You can intergrate your outdoor living space to have both. Keep your thirsty lawn to areas only where you will really enjoy it and keep plants which require maintenance and watering together and closer to the home. Even replacing a small percentage of your yard with xeric plants will save that percentage of resources used. With all the interesting and even beautiful options in Xeriscaping, there is every reason to go green in the garden.

Not only is Xeriscaping better for our environment by using far less resources, it also requires much less work and money on our part.

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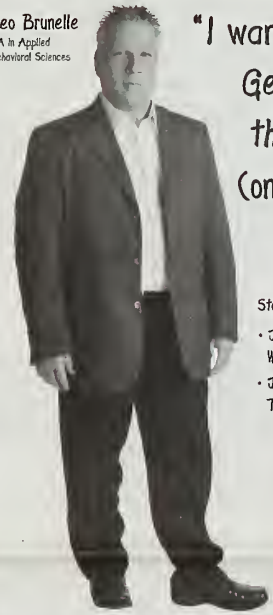

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The Pillars of Fitness

with RJ Loebe

RJ Loebe

Preventing hypertrophy

Since the winter months are rapidly coming. It's a good time to worry more about strength and less about hypertrophy. Remember, with strength programs comes hypertrophy (muscle gain), although at a slower pace. The stronger you are the more muscle you are able to tear down and rebuild. One of the better strength routines I've read is a 4 day split.

Bench press- 6 reps, 3 sets
Dumbbell flies - 8 reps, 3 sets
Tricep rows - 8 reps 3 sets
Bent rows - 6 reps 3 sets
Pullups 3 sets

Tues/Fri:
Squats - 6 reps 3 sets
Calf raises 75 reps 1 set
Deadlift- 5 reps 2 sets
Overhead press- 6 reps 3 sets
Lateral dumbbell raises- 8 reps 3 sets
Front dumbbell raises- 8 reps 3 sets

It's recommended this routine should be done for 2 months, and then switch into higher rep ranges of 8-12 to avoid becoming stale in the routine and plateuing.

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News Briefs

The Movie Poster Show

Which movie should you have starred in? The best brains and graphic artists will super-impose your picture into a movie poster so you look like the star! Baffle your friends with a great poster...all free for students with an ID on Nov. 16 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the Bridge.

Handcrafted Jewelry Holiday Sale

JJC Metalsmithing class will host their handcrafted jewelry holiday sale on Wednesday, Nov. 18, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Cafeteria.

Our Giant Home: The Milky Way Galaxy

Our galaxy is a beautiful spiral galaxy, with its spiral arms in a thin disk. When we look at the night sky our Galaxy appears to us as a band of stars, not a disk. This International Year of Astronomy event will address how we learned that our Galaxy is spiral in structure, how our Galaxy's size compares to our solar system, our Sun's location in the Galaxy, the black hole at the center of our Galaxy, "dark matter" in our Galaxy, why the Galaxy has spiral arms, etc. The star projector will be used to see where the band of the Milky Way lies, and where star clusters, nebulae and the galactic center are located. Presented by Dr. Noella D'Cruz, Associate Professor of Astronomy on Nov. 19 from 4:30-5:30 p.m.

Epicurean Festival

JJC Culinary Arts and Hospitality Management department is holding their 9th Annual Epicurean Festival of Food and Wine on Friday, Nov.20from 7-10 p.m. in the main campus cafeteria area of "J" building.

There will be different stations to sample both exquisite food and fine wine. A silent auction table will be setup with great items to bid on, along with the highlight of the evening – a live auction. Bid on a dinner for yourself and friends with a private chef or a wine tasting evening. Ticket price is $60.00 per person. Tickets are available by calling Dori Miller at 815-280-2255.

Ticket from page 1

that students will not be issued a ticket, the student should park in designated student parking areas, not faculty parking.

Also students should not park in the handicapped spots, if they are not handicapped, or park in the 15 or 20 minute parking spots longer then indicated.

As the winter months near, it will not benefit students to park in these areas to avoid walking in the cold, snow and slush. It is suggested that students bundle up and wear boots on days when the cold and snow is terrible.

As the construction continues and when the parking will be changes again to allow construction to be done in other areas, students need to be careful to read the signs.

There was some confusion at the beginning of the fall semester, but the majority of that has been resolved now.

"All of the students were very excited to be a part of the project and are thankful that they were included in the campus-wide efforts to support World Food Day."
KATHY DIEHL

Work from page 1

of their students to attain other jobs outside of school.

The WTP is located on the third floor. Cindy Fischer is the direct supervisor for the WTP. There are about 50-75 students and about 15 coaches. They have been helping around JJC, with academic clubs projects and also graduation.

"The WTP program at JJC has done an outstanding job at supporting its students and the campus as a whole, through the dedication of its students and job coaches," said Kathy Diehl, one of the job coaches.

Recently, the WTP helped Phi Theta Kappa make buttons to be sold during World Food Day.

A special thanks to Jasmine Aguirre, Valerie Benevides, Eric Bubolz, Ross Calverly, Carnell Hall, Michael Mroz, Tony Rosary, Jay Vargas and their coaches Barbara Mosier and Greg Baez for their hard work and collaboration with Phi Theta Kappa.

"All of the students were very excited to be a part of the project and are thankful that they were included in the campus-wide efforts to support World Food Day," said Diehl.

Phi Theta Kappa officers agree that the WTP's help was much appreciated and a great contribution to the cause. They offered a resounding "Thanks for the help" to the members of the WTP.

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Aaron Hoffman (BFA 2009)

Istoria Church now meeting on campus

JIM SHELDON
Co-Editor-In-Chief

After a trip to Joliet in 2008, Steve Hinkle felt convinced that God wanted him to leave his youth pastor position in Virginia, move his family to Joliet and start a church there that felt more like Jesus.

Istoria Church, which had its first service on Nov. 8 in the J Building of Joliet Junior College, is Hinkle's church.

"After 14 years as a youth pastor, I became tired of organized religion and wanted to see more churches started that both live and love like Christ," said Hinkle.

Istoria is next to the Chef's Table in J Building and Hinkle is excited to have his church at JJC.

"We are not affiliated with JJC but are grateful for the space to meet and excited about possibly meeting some of the students who have questions on their spiritual journey or want to experience a new kind of church in Joliet."

Hinkle says that people can expect a church that focuses on people not only inside the church but also outside it.

"We want to be a church that focuses on those outside our four walls," said Hinkle. "We see a lot of churches that I call 'country club' churches, places where people become members and 'pay their dues' and every decision is made to benefit themselves. The poor, needy and hurting are often forgotten and that's who Jesus ministered to most."

The Sunday gatherings at Istoria, (the Greek word for story) will include a presentation of the timeless truths of The Bible in a way that impacts people's lives today, according to Hinkle.

"We want a key chapter in the story of our church to focus on both the global and local impact," said Hinkle. "We believe that God's love has no borders and He calls us to share this love with people in our own backyard and around the world."

The first series of messages which started Nov. 8 was titled "Beautiful Mess."

"Whether its struggles with our finances, children, relationships, death, illness, etc, our lives are MESSY, but it doesn't have to get UGLY," said Hinkle. "We will be learning about JESUS, his beginnings and how we can find beauty in our messy lives."

Worship, which begins at 10 a.m., will include fellowship (coffee, water and snacks), music (worship, top ten, hymns, etc.), a relative message about Christ and his kingdom, communion, prayer, and Hinkle says that most of all, lasting friendships will be made as people work together to make a difference in the community.

People of all denominations are welcome at Istoria.

"Anyone is welcome to join us and unless you want to, you don't have to dress up. You don't have to be any particular age," said Hinkle. "We couldn't care less who you voted for last election and please, don't feel the need to pretend about anything."

Hinkle believes that Istoria has the great opportunity to continue Jesus' mission of the Kingdom in the world which includes loving and serving the poor in our community and the nations.

"Istoria Church is a place where God meets people who are far from perfect. That means anyone is welcome, no matter where you are on your spiritual journey," said Hinkle. "So learn at your own pace and ask questions.

Hinkle has gotten the word out about Istoria through friendships, word of mouth and Facebook where you can become a fan of Istoria Church.

He mentioned that every other Thursday some people, including him, like to lend a hand to LifeSpring Community Church and Iglesia Bethania by distributing food to a needy neighborhood in Joliet.

They also partnered with the Church of Second Chances in Joliet to distribute blankets, hats and gloves to the homeless on Oct. 18 at Van Buren Plaza in downtown Joliet.

Hinkle also made note of a SOUPer Bowl Charity fundraiser where volunteers are needed to raise money and food for the local food pantries. If you are interested in being a part of the planning committee, please contact Andrea Bertani by phone at 815-260-3099 or by email at abertani1@aol.com.

"We are on a journey; the writing of our story is a process. That's how stories get written. God wants us to see beyond the moment and into the future. See beauty when others see tragedy - hope when others see despair - possibilities when others see problems - others when others only see themselves - you see God and His Kingdom and restoration in everything," said Hinkle.

Steve Hinkle and his wife Suzette are the founders of the Istoria Church, now meeting on campus.
Photo courtesy of Steve Hinkle

"We see a lot of churches that I call 'country club' churches, places where people become members and 'pay their dues' and every decision is made to benefit themselves."
STEVE HINKLE

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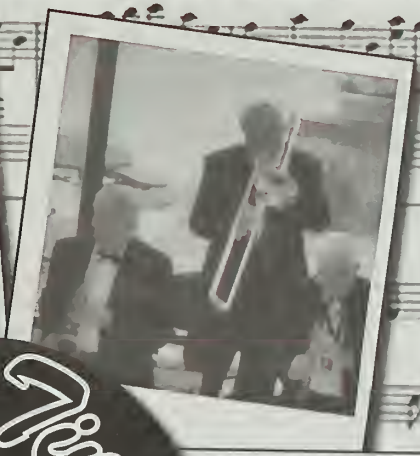

Old Time Social

Photos by Kat Boehle

On Nov. 6 from 4-6 p.m., the Jay Mau Orchestra filled the Cafeteria with 40's and 50's jazz music. Sponsored by the Holistic Outreach and Wellness club, there was ice cream, coffee and 16 baskets that were raffled. There was a $5 suggested donation, all proceeds going to the senior center to help pay for medications and other expenses.

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Fair from page 1

piece of paper out. Doing this would reveal certain shapes that Struck would then analyze.

There were also energy rods, by Sue Benson, who's been doing it for three years. Benson would take different energy rods and hold them to certain parts of the student's body to measure their energy in different places.

After Benson would complete this, she would then describe how much energy the student had and the types of personality traits the student held because of it.

"These guys are amazing," said returning JJC student, Kayla Fitzpatrick. "Last year, the psychic told me that I was going to meet the one I was meant to be with, and a month later I met my now-fiancé."

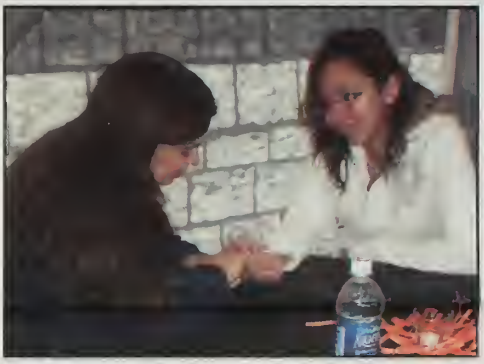
Not only were there parapsychology demonstrators, but there was a display with an abundance of creepy crawlers by Reptile Rampage, a reptile rescue.

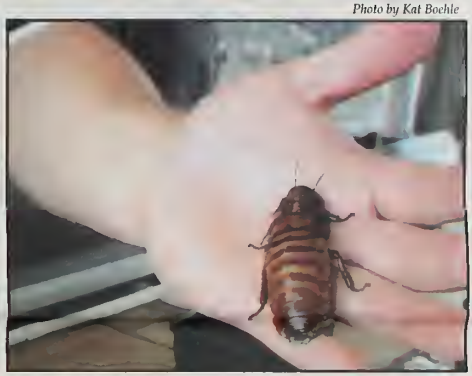
The display had animals such as marine toads, tarantulas, venomous spiders, a lung fish, scorpions, and hissing cockroaches to only name a few.

The reptile handler would even take the animals out of their cages for the students to see up close, and he also demonstrated how the scorpions change color when under a different color light.

Students could also take advantage of the education table displayed by the Pagan and Wiccan club that was for students to learn more about the origin of Halloween and the religion in general.

At the Para Fair students were able to have their "spirit painting" analyzed by expert Mary Struck.
Photo by Kat Boehle





From left, JJC students had the opportunity to have their palm read on the bridge; Reptile Rampage displayed several insects including cockroaches. *Photos by Kat Boehle*

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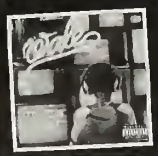

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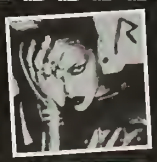

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Images courtesy of Amazon

Cartel returns to their glory days with third album 'Cycles'

RYAN KELLEY
Staff Writer

Image courtesy of Myspace.com

From left, guitarist Nic Hudson, lead guitarist Joseph Pepper, vocalist/guitarist Will Pugh, bassist Jeff Lett and drummer Kevin Sanders.

I remember seeing Cartel my sophomore year of high school with The Starting Line for the Screaming is For Babies Tour in 2006. Back then, the only thing people knew about them was that they were a small pop-punk act from Georgia.

After the show, I, among many of my other friends, was glued to their debut album Chroma. About 6 months later, I heard "Honestly" played repeatedly by radio stations, MTV and fellow high school students. Cartel was making a name for themselves as Chroma had topped most mainstream acts and went down as a top album for fans of the pop punk scene.

Chroma set Cartel's standards very high, which should have been a great advantage for them. But as they were featured on MTV's "band in a box", fans became hyped for this new, self-titled Cartel album. But when the album debuted in spring 2007, it appeared that it did not live up to the potential many were expecting.

Containing two decent singles, "Lose It," and "The Fortunate," was not enough for this album to break ground anywhere. The album did not even sell half the copies that Chroma did. And for Cartel, all hell broke loose as they were dropped from their label Epic Records.

Now siding with Wind-Up Records, Cartel has released Cycles. Trying to bounce back from a sophomore slump, Cartel starts it up with "Let's Go." This song is a reach out for fans to re-join them on their journey in Cycles and the celebration that the song brings is successful.

Next, we hear "The Perfect Mistake," a song that I believe is arguably, the best track on Cycles. It is a typical pop punk song; simple and catchy, but it has so much energy that you cannot afford to skip past it.

In fact, there may be no need for skipping songs on this album as we hit the third track "Faster Ride," an upbeat soft song that features an interesting beginning and verses, along with a harmonizing pre-chorus that is followed by a different, but catchy chorus from Cartel.

"Deep South," which should be their next single, is a song about the band's Southern roots that may as well be the next "Minstrel's Prayer," from Chroma. Its heartfelt melodies should easily draw you in as should the rest of Cycles.

Cycles somewhat brings us back to the Chroma-like sound and it has done so much better than their previous release.

Will Pugh ... has one of the best/unique voices among anyone in the pop punk scene today, and until you experience seeing Cartel live, you are missing out.

Impressed by Cycles, I went to see Cartel perform at Mojoes in Orland Park on Oct. 4. Opening for them were The Summer Set and This Providence. Starting their set with "Let's Go," I became a sucker for their live performance.

Will Pugh, vocalist/guitarist of Cartel has one of the best/unique voices among anyone in the pop punk scene today and until you experience seeing Cartel live, you are missing out. Equally playing songs from Chroma, Self-Titled, and Cycles, fans wanted more after Cartel finished their set with "A."

With the band walking off stage, Pugh remained and sang a cappella with the crowd singing right behind him. And while Pugh left the stage for good, the fans did not leave the venue. In a matter of seconds, the famous "one more song" chant was being yelled over and over again for two minutes.

Cartel gave what their fans wanted, coming back out and playing "The Perfect Mistake," and closing it up with "Honestly."

After a sophomore slump, Cartel is back. While Pugh is receiving much credit, let's lift our hats off to guitarists Joseph Pepper and Nic Hudson who have shown that they are able to keep up with Pugh's talents as they have added duel-layered guitars that have added the power-pop sound from Chroma that fans wished to hear on Cycles. So I must say this for the final time; Cartel is back.

Owl City wins over new fans with 'Ocean Eyes'

SHEILA AIMI
Staff Writer

Just recently Owl City, a newer electronic band, has begun to make themselves known in the music industry through the help of Universal Republic Records.

In the past two years Owl City has released three different CDs. Their newest album being Ocean Eyes, released early fall of this year, has easily become a favorite amongst their fans, with various songs such as "Hello Seattle" and "Fireflies." Owl City started out when lead singer Adam Young was living in Owatonna, Minn., and dealing with insomnia. Adam used his insomnia and computer skills to start creating electronic style songs and then uploaded them onto the web for all to see.

Luckily for Adam, numerous labels as well as friends and fans become intrigued by the music Adam was creating. Before he knew it, Adam was signed to Universal Republic Records, and began to professionally record his music.

The first time I listened to Ocean Eyes, I fell in love with it, and the next day I caught myself at the store buying it.

His first CD was entitled Maybe I'm Dreaming, followed by Owl City's second CD, Of June. Out of all of three CDs, Ocean Eyes is Owl City's first major CD, and a definite hit amongst old fans, as well as newer fans.

Up until a few weeks ago, I had no idea who Owl City even was, until a few friends turned me onto them. The first time I listened to Ocean Eyes, I fell in love with it, and the next day I caught myself at the store buying it. Owl City is of course considered to be an electronic band, due to the use of various machines and different sounds they use to create their music. They are not your typical electric drums and guitar, bass guitar, singer kind of band.

Owl City adds synthesizers, keyboards and various electronics to create a new sound. Bands all over the country are always doing things to become the next big thing, and Owl City has used its diversity to do such that.

Even Owl City's music video for "Fireflies" features nothing but electronic toys and items moving around and flashing. So not only are you mesmerized by the music itself, but the video has the effect of drawing you in. Overall Ocean Eyes is a must have album, even for those who have never listened to Owl City before. All of their songs are rhythmic and catchy, with more of an up-tempo beat.

As an overall prediction, I believe that within the next year Owl City will hit the music scene, creating a newer movement of electronic entertainment. So if you have yet to hear Owl City, I definitely recommend either checking them out on iTunes or YouTube and then you can decide for yourself.

After a long delay, Director Spike Jonze brings children's classic to the big screen

REVIEWED BY ADRIANO VALQUEZ

MAX
PLAYED BY MAX RECORDS

CAROL
VOICED BY JAMES GANDOLFINI

K.W.
VOICED BY LAUREN AMBROSE

ALEXANDER
VOICED BY PAUL DANO

After a long delay spanning almost a decade (involving production disagreements, recasting and almost an entirely new reshoot), it has finally arrived. Was Spike Jonze's latest film worth the wait? The answer is yes.

Where the Wild Things Are is a wonderful, beautiful and emotionally satisfying film.

For those of you who do not know, Where the Wild Things Are is a film adaptation of the classic 1963 children's book by Maurice Sendak which became popular due to its wonderful artistic drawings, use of "psychoanalytic anger" (Francis Spufford), and the fact that you could read it "through a Freudian or colonialist prism" (New York Times film critic Manohla Dargis).

The story tells the simple tale of Max (played by Max Records); a lonely boy who is so hyper you would think the child contains all the signs of real ADD.

Max's life is not working out for him; his teenage sister ignores him for her friends, his mother (Catherine Keener) does not give him much attention (due to a new boyfriend and working so much), and Max is having trouble understanding the changing world around him (shown in a scene in his classroom where his teacher explains the unavoidable death of the sun).

Having enough, Max throws a temper tantrum, "I'll eat you up!", then bites his mother and runs away. There he runs to the woods and finds a boat, in which he uses to sail across the ocean and arrives to the land of the wild things (of course this is all captured in the Id's of his imagination).

It is there that Max is confronted by creatures who are just as real as he is; with the presence of adults, but the personalities of children.

We have Carol (James Gandolfini), Judith and Ira (Catherine O'Hara and Forest Whitaker), Alexander (Paul Dano), Douglas (Chris Cooper), KW (Lauren Ambrose), and lastly The Bull (Michael Bay Jr.). All of these wild things contain different types of real life emotions that make them all likeable from the start.

> THIS IS A BOLD AND AMBITIOUS MOVIE, AND BECAUSE OF THIS, MOST LITTLE CHILDREN WHO GO TO SEE THIS MOVIE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO UNDERSTAND THE STORY THAT MUCH.

Upon arrival, Max declares himself king of the wild things, and from there on the story unfolds as Max starts to realize the realities of life and sees the mere image of himself through Carol; understanding the troubles of his family and why he cannot keep up with everything that is happening in his 9-year old childhood invested life.

The plot is not exactly what I call typical for a family film. Nothing much happens in terms of narrative structure and Max is not your average child that we see compared to most Disney inspired children's films.

He is much more complex then that, showing real emotions, insecurities and sadness. What newcomer Max Records accomplishes with this role is truly astonishing. This is the best performance given by a child actor since Haley Joel Osment in The Sixth Sense. All the actors doing the voiceovers shine as well.

What sells the movie, at least for me, is the script written by Spike Jonze and Dave Eggers (who also wrote Away We Go). Jonze and Eggers made the brilliant decision to make the story on the land of the wild parallel to the events that occur in his real life.

Through the events that occur with the wild things, Max learns a lot about himself and his troubles back home.

This is a bold and ambitious move, and because of this, most little children who go to see this movie will not be able to understand the story that much. It is more of a movie for the adults and teens out there who remember the innocence and confusion of being a kid.

But those qualities separate Where the Wild Things Are from most films in general. I have seen this movie 4 times already and after my second viewing, all my 13-year-old brother could say after the film is that he wanted to be a kid again.

I warn parents with extreme caution that this is not your typical family film. It is quite dark and scary, and they might end up being bored. But this is ok, weren't we all scared at one time of the flying monkeys in The Wizard of Oz?

Where the Wild Things Are deserves to be compared to that film, as it is a new timeless classic that will be regarded as one of the most inventive, and imaginative films of the last decade.

IRA
VOICED BY FOREST WHITAKER

JUDITH
VOICED BY CATHERINE O'HARA

DOUGLAS
VOICED BY CHRIS COOPER

THE BULL
VOICED BY MICHAEL BERRY JR

Images courtesy of mvoiceweb.com

'Mother Courage and Her Children' set to take JJC stage

KAT BOEHLE
Photo Editor

Nov. 12 through the 15, Joliet Junior College's Fine Arts department will be performing their second show of the year, Mother Courage and Her Children.

The play is of the anti-war genre and was written in 1939 by German writer, Bertolt Brecht, and is set during the thirty years war in Europe, following Mother Courage and her children and how they survive through the war.

"I like the fact that it was written in 1939, yet it's an anti-war play," said director Zach Bloomfield. "It's good to see that theatre has been addressing it for a long time."

Although a simple plotline, the play has a very unique view on things with it being part of the Epic Theatre movement. While in most plays, scene changing is done quickly by a running crew, and costume changing is done offstage, all of this is going to be done onstage by the actors themselves.

The actors will also be doing all the sound effects themselves, and unlike other plays, actors will be constantly interacting with the audience throughout the play and even before the play and during intermission.

A fairly large ensemble, there will be 26 cast members, which Bloomfield was happy to say, gave plenty of students the opportunity to be involved who had been wanting to be involved for a while.

All cast members are JJC students except for Mother Courage who will be played by JJC's very own speech and theatre professor, Tammy Perkins.

Also, with the exception of Mother Courage and her children, all the characters are called by their title (Chaplain, Cook, etc.) as opposed to actual names.

Unlike the typical two or three act structured play, Mother Courage and Her Children is structured in 12 different scenes, and also features some live music presented in a non-musical theatre sort of way.

The show will be performed Thursday through Saturday night at 8 p.m., and Sunday afternoon at 2 p.m.

Tickets are selling for $8 for the general public; $5 for JJC faculty, non-JJC students and senior citizens; and $3 for JJC students.

"Benedictine is truly a place where you can be you."

Deema Ramadan, who graduated from a small private, all-girls school in Bridgeview, wanted to attend a college where she would feel welcomed and where she could make a difference. That college was Benedictine University. "The school's main concern is genuine learning and not so much 'prestige' per se," she said. "It's truly a place where you can be you. The caring and close-knit community feeling is something that is not so prevalent in other Universities these days. The students, faculty and staff are very considerate people.

"You have a chance to offer everything you have in your ability and make change where it counts," Ramadan said.

Deema Ramadan – carrying the light that was passed on to her, and sharing it with others so that they may pass it on to future generations.

Carry the Light

Deema Ramadan
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'Shopaholic' author's new book doesn't live up to hype

KAT BOEHLE
Photo Editor

Sophie Kinsella, #1 New York Times bestselling author, best known for her Shopoholic series that was turned into the February movie, Confessions of a Shopoholic, is still at work writing novels. Among them is Remember Me?, a stand-alone novel.

Lexi Smart, a 28-year-old whose life isn't going where she wants it to, takes a big turn in life when she wakes up in a hospital after a car crash and doesn't remember the last three years of her life. However, instead of the old Lexi Smart with no boyfriend, crappy job, and who could shed a few pounds, now she has everything.

She has the job, the husband, the house, the body, the clothes, the friends. But soon, Lexi starts learning more about what happened in those three years she can't remember, most of which, *isn't that positive*.

Kinsella is actually one of the few authors that I can say that I've read every book in her collection. What keeps me coming back? The laughs. Remember Me?, just like her past novels, is hilarious.

I also really can't get over the characters in this book. I'm pretty sure every character in the novel got on my nerves at least once or twice.

But, in my opinion, the idea isn't that original. Someone who gets amnesia and it turns out something horrible happened in the time they can't remember is way, way, WAY overused.

However, it is a very humorous book that is well written and keeps you laughing until the end. This is a rare talent that not many authors possess.

For movies it's much easier to make people laugh, but in books, you have to either have some great dialogue or some great descriptions to make the reader laugh, and Kinsella accomplishes this with every book she writes.

When comparing Remember Me? to her other books, I would have to say that it is one of the better books.

Unlike a lot of Kinsella fans, the Shopaholic series is my least favorite because it feels like every book in the series is exactly like the first book, Confessions of a Shopaholic.

So I would definitely have to place Remember Me? ahead of the Shopaholic series. I don't think it's as good as her previous stand-alone novels The Undomestic Goddess, and Can You Keep a Secret?, because of its lack of an original plot.

I also really can't get over the characters in this book. I'm pretty sure every character in the novel got on my nerves at least once or twice. Part of me also feels like Lexi could not, in any way, shape or form, have become the person she was in the three years she couldn't remember.

I won't spoil the secret that is revealed in the middle of book, but the secret gets on my nerves too.

The way that Kinsella presented it makes it seem bad at first, but then throughout the novel, *Kinsella seems to make what* happened "okay" and I don't feel like what she did was "okay" at all, no matter what the circumstances were (and although the audience isn't children or anything, I don't want Lexi's choices to be a bad influence to people put in a similar situation).

Looking at the good aspects of the novel… well… I guess other than the fact that it's pretty laugh-out-loud funny, there are really not that many good aspects. Also, I feel like some of the humor is really forced.

Like when reading a poem, it feels like the author is trying too hard for it to rhyme. I felt like Kinsella was trying way too hard to get the reader to laugh sometimes.

When looking at the novel as a whole, I guess I really didn't like it that much. Weak plot, weak characters, weak humor – overall a pretty weak book.

If you want a Kinsella novel with a stronger plot with better characters and good humor, I would highly recommend Can You Keep a Secret? and The Undomestic Goddess.

Considering that Kinsella has had some pretty good books in the past, I will be buying her new release Twenties Girl in hopes of it being better than Remember Me?: 1.5/4 stars.

Box Office Top 10

Rank	Title	Weekend
1	A Christmas Carol	$31M
2	This Is It	$14M
3	The Men Who Stare at Goats	$13.3M
4	The Fourth Kind	$12.5M
5	Paranormal Activity	$8.6M
6	The Box	$7.86M
7	Couples Retreat	$6.43M
8	Law Abiding Citizen	$6.17M
9	Where the Wild Things Are	$4.22M
10	Astro Boy	$2.59M

In Theaters This Week

2012

Starring John Cusack, Amanda Peet, Woody Harrelson *Rated: PG-13*

"2012" revolves a family who goes on vacation in December 2012, just as the Mayan calendar is coming to a close. Over the decades, many have prophesized that the world will end when the ancient calendar ceases on Dec. 21, 2012.

The Fantastic Mr. Fox

Starring George Clooney, Meryl Streep *Rated: PG*

"The Fantastic Mr. Fox" is visionary director Wes Anderson's first animated film, utilizing classic handmade stop motion techniques to tell the story of the best selling children's book by Roald Dahl (author of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory and James and the Giant Peach).

Pirate Radio

Starring Philip Seymour Hoffman, Bill Nighy, January Jones *Rated: R*

In 1966, arguably British pop music's finest era -- the BBC played only two hours of rock and roll every week. But pirate radio blasted rock and pop from the high seas 24 hours a day. And 25 million people -- more than half the population of Britain -- listened to these pirates every single day.

Images courtesy of mvoucweb.com

SOMETHING PARANORMAL

With over one million terrified and counting, *Paranormal Activity* puts the horror back in film

ADRIANO VAZQUEZ
Staff Writer

I am not going to beat around the bush and just admit that I was completely shaken. I have seen the film twice; first online (which was an alternate version), and secondly in the theaters (which is obviously the version that mostly everyone has seen).

After my first viewing of Paranormal Activity, I went downstairs to get something to drink; and I heard noises, creaks, strange sounds coming from our decade old refrigerator. I was over thinking everything around me.

I could not sleep till 3, and after that, I had trouble sleeping throughout the night. It was pretty disorienting; it took the whole night before I could release all the tension that I had received upon watching the film.

The internet phenomenon that is Paranormal Activity is an effective horror film because it takes the whole "scared of the dark" motif, and proves that when it comes to horror, less is more. It shows that what scares us the most are things that cannot be explained or understood, and gives us an evil that feels real, and makes us dread the night.

The simple premise, which is bugely influenced by another horror film classic, The Blair Witch Project, is about a young couple named Micah and Katie. Katie tells Micah that apparently an evil presence has been haunting her since about the age of 8.

And even now it seems, the presence has come back to haunt her. Even a psychic tells her that she "cannot run from this, it will follow you."

Micah, being the charmer that he is, decides to buy a video camera so he can maybe catch "whatever paranormal phenomenon is occurring or is not occurring" in the house by putting the camera in their bedroom to record what occurs when they are sleeping.

> ***Paranormal Activity is an effective horror film because it takes the whole "scared of the dark" motif and proves that when it comes to horror, less is more.***

First it starts with footsteps, then footsteps grow into huge noises, and then as the nights go on, the presence becomes stronger and stronger to the point where they start to realize that what they are dealing with is more dangerous than they were originally expecting.

It all builds up to an ending that you will never forget, and will probably get underneath your skin, as it did for me. As I have said before, this is greatly influenced by The Blair Witch Project, as there are daytime and night sequences.

Nighttime is where all the big scares come in with the daytime sequences playing out much slower in pace and has a lot of what some would call "nothing" going on with the characters just meandering around through the day just before nighttime falls.

The film has been greatly criticized for those daytime sequences because they are slow. I would agree, up to a certain point, but the daytime sequences are fine with me for a few reasons.

It gives us time to breathe after the nighttime sequences; they are often times hilarious (including a scene where Micah suggests that they get "a little extra curricular with the camera"), and lastly, because it does a great job giving us ways to identify with the characters as well as preparing us for the nighttime scenes.

The film has split many people because some find these kinds of "found footage" films boring, and nauseating. I am a fan of these types of films because I personally think they do a good job making us feel like we are inside, experiencing the story instead of just watching it the way most films are.

I mentioned earlier that I saw 2 slightly different versions; I have to say that in their own way, they are both equal and effective. The original cut which I saw online has a slower buildup but I found its ending more effective and convincing, unlike the theatrical ending which has been slightly revealed in the infamous teaser trailer.

Some of you out there who question why this film scared the heck out of me may call me words like "weak, " "sissy,"or other words that I cannot say in this review, but you know what? I do not care.

If you like horror movies and have been sick of the gore fest, exploitation horror films that have been plaguing us moviegoers for years, you owe it to yourself to give Paranormal Activity a shot.

CRUNCHING THE NUMBERS

9.1 the amount (in millions) that the filmed grossed in first week in the U.S

7 how many days the film took to shoot in the director's home

15 the amount (in thousands) that the film was shot for

97 the approximate amount (in millions) that the film has grossed as of Nov. 8

Upcoming DVD releases for the weeks of 11/10 and 11/17

UP (Nov. 10)

Up is a comedy adventure about 78-year-old balloon salesman Carl Fredericksen, who finally fulfills his lifelong dream of a great adventure when he ties thousands of balloons to his house and flies away to the wilds of South America. But he discovers all too late that his biggest nightmare has stowed away on the trip: an overly optimistic 8-year-old Wilderness Explorer named Russell.

The Ugly Truth (Nov. 10)

Abby Richter (Katherine Heigl) is a romantically challenged morning show producer whose search for Mr. Perfect has left her hopelessly single. She's in for a rude awakening when her bosses team her with Mike Chadway (Gerard Butler), a hardcore TV personality who promises to spill the ugly truth on what makes men and women tick.

Star Trek (Nov. 17)

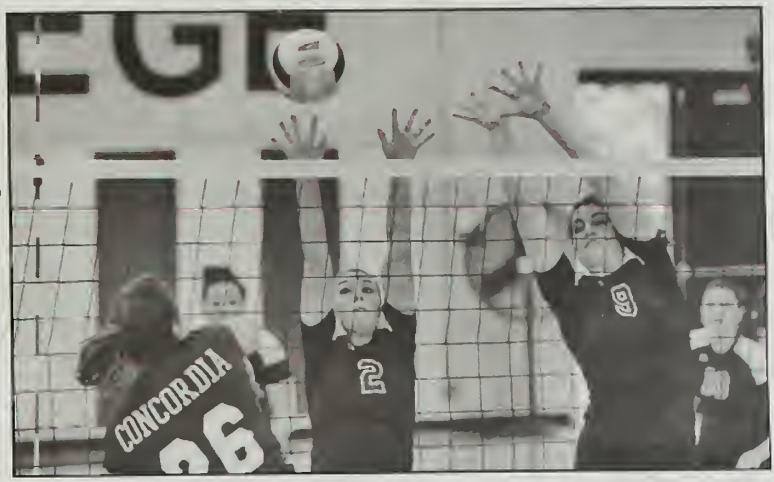
J.J. Abrams' 2009 feature film was billed as "not your father's Star Trek," but your father will probably love it anyway. And what's not to love? It has enough action, emotional impact, humor, and sheer fun for any moviegoer.

Images courtesy of Amazon

Volleyball

Lady Wolves season comes to an end

TOMMY STOKKE
Sports Editor



Amie Hogan (2) and Megan Wilmoth (9) jump and try to block the ball in an early season game against Concordia. *Photo by Mike DiNovo*

The Lady Wolves volleyball team concluded their season last week and according to head coach Lakisha Cameron, things didn't go as smoothly as anticipated.

"I feel okay about the season this year," said the first-year coach. "I know that we definitely could have been stronger."

A key component to the struggles was the injury bug. The Lady Wolves suffered two key injuries that really set the team back.

"We took some hits when two significant players went down," said Cameron. "It was really rough on us physically and emotionally, changing up the line-up with half the season done."

The changes the players were able to make impressed Cameron.

"I was impressed with the players' adaptability during this process and moving around for the better of the team."

One player, Brittany Powers, particularly impressed Cameron.

"She handled it with grace. She really stepped in wherever we needed. It also says a lot about her attitude and athletic skill."

Some matches that stand out to Cameron were those against Harper and Madison Tech. The team was at full strength and was able to play well and show the potential of the team. Madison Tech was ranked fourth in the nation at the time, yet had to earn each and every point.

"I was very impressed with our decisions and game play that match. The team was pretty excited as well."

"I think next year will be better for us because we were such a young team this year."
HEAD COACH LAKISHA CAMERON

Despite this season's result, Cameron is excited for the future.

"I think next year will be better for us because we were such a young team this year. I expect a few players to return and expect them to put up big numbers. Recruiting has been going really well and I should have a few surprises for next year."

Cameron also expects improvement in herself after her first season coaching at the college level.

"I was expecting this year to be rough due to the number of freshman and this being my first year as a head coach at the collegiate level. This year has taught me some things that I want to incorporate for next year like focusing on injury prevention and having our players become more versatile in case someone is injured late in the season."

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Wolves
from page 16

yards and two touchdowns and running back Exzaybion Jackson caught 5 passes for 106 yards.

In their last match up, things were over before the Wolves got started as they fell behind 28-0 before cracking the scoreboard. Things were much closer this time around.

"That is a very good team," head coach Jeremy Richardson said. "There is a reason they are undefeated and I give a lot of credit to their coaching staff and players."

The Wolves (6-5) now move on to the Graphic Edge Bowl for the fourth time in five seasons. Their opponent will be the North Dakota State College of Science. The two teams met earlier in the year when JJC defeated NDSCS 35-21.

In the previous meeting, Walley finished with 193 yards passing, while running back Toshorn Napper added two touchdowns. Tyrek Boone intercepted the NDSCS quarterback twice. Wide receiver Donnie Schwaga added two touchdown receptions of his own.

This will be Richardson's first time coaching a bowl game at JJC.

The game will take place in Cedar Falls, Iowa on Nov. 22.

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END OF THE LINE

Wolves come up short against Grand Rapids

"There is a reason [Grand Rapids is] undefeated and I give a lot of credit to their coaching staff and players."

HEAD COACH JEREMY RICHARDSON

TOMMY STOKKE
Sports Editor

After falling to Grand Rapids 51-7 earlier in the season, the Joliet Junior College football team knew they would have their hands full.

The Wolves would give unbeaten Grand Rapids all they could handle, but fell just short 41-27 in the North Central Community College Conference championship game on Nov. 7 in Grand Rapids.

Quarterback Chris Walley would find Brandon Williams on a 33-yard strike to pull the Wolves within a touchdown and set up an onside kick. However, the kick would find Grand Rapids, who would then find the end zone to put the game out of reach.

The Wolves were led by Walley, who threw for 345 yards, on 23-40 passing with two touchdowns. Walley was held to just 14-34 for 145 yards in the last match-up. Williams finished with 104

See Wolves page 15

Photos by Mike DiNovo

MALE ATHLETE OF THE ISSUE

BY TOMMY STOKKE

The male athlete of the issue is Brandon Williams. Williams is the tight end for the JJC football team. He is quarterback Chris Walley's favorite target and the leading receiver for the Wolves. In the Wolves 41-27 loss to Grand Rapids, Williams hauled in 5 catches for 104 yards, including a 33-yard touchdown pass. He leads the team with 47 catches and 725 yards to go along with four touchdowns.

BRANDON WILLIAMS

FEMALE ATHLETE OF THE ISSUE

The female athlete of the issue is Brittany Powers. The freshman out of Joliet West high school has been versatile for coach Lakisha Cameron, adjusting to every role assigned to her. In a recent game against Lewis & Clark Community College, she contributed 13 assists and 3 kills playing in the role of a setter, one she was not used to. In earlier matches during the season she had match kill totals of 14, 11, 10, and 10 as well. Her versatility was key for the Lady Wolves this season.

BRITTANY POWERS